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**ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR  
SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES  
(ECOFISH) PROJECT**

## **ECOSYSTEMS IMPROVED FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES (ECOFISH) Project**

### **ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR 2** (01 OCTOBER 2013 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2014)

**ECOFISH Document No.: 08/2014**

Version: Final

***Implemented with:***

Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources  
National Government Agencies  
Local Government Units  
Assisting Organizations

***Supported by:***

United States Agency for International Development  
Contract No.: AID-492-C-12-00008

***Managed by:***

Tetra Tech ARD

12 November 2014

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### ***DISCLAIMER***

*The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.*

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

700DALOY	-	700 Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity
AIM	-	Asian Institute of Management
AMPA	-	Adopt a Marine Protected Area Project
ARMM	-	Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao
BFAR	-	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BoatR	-	National Municipal Fishing Boat Registration System
BuB	-	Bottom-up-Budgeting
CADT	-	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CBA	-	Cost Benefit Analysis
CCA	-	Climate Change Adaptation
CCCNI	-	Calamianes Conservation and Cultural Networks Inc.
CCEF	-	Coastal Conservation Education Foundation
CCT	-	Conditional Cash Transfer
CFRM	-	Coastal and Fisheries Resources Management
CI	-	Conservation International
CIG	-	Calamianes Island Group
CLEC	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Council
CLET	-	Coastal Law Enforcement Team
CLUP	-	Comprehensive Land Use Plan
CLWUP	-	Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan
CMN	-	Calamianes MPA Network
COMPETE	-	Advancing Philippine Competitiveness Project
COP	-	Chief of Party
COR	-	Contracting Officer's Representative
CRM	-	Coastal Resources Management
CTI	-	Coral Triangle Initiative
DA	-	Department of Agriculture
DAP	-	Development Academy of the Philippines
DBM	-	Department of Budget and Management
DCOP	-	Deputy Chief of Party
DDBRMC	-	Danajon Double Barrier Reef Management Council
DENR	-	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DILG	-	Department of Interior and Local Government
DOF	-	Department of Finance
DOST	-	Department of Science and Technology
DSWD	-	Department of Social Work and Development
EAFM	-	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
ECOFISH	-	Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries
ELAC	-	Environmental Legal Assistance Center
EU	-	European Union
EwE	-	Ecopath with Ecosim
FARMC	-	Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion

FIMS	-	Fisheries Information System
FISH	-	Fisheries Improved for Sustainable Harvest Project
FishR	-	National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration
FLE	-	Fisheries Law Enforcement
FRM	-	Fisheries Resources Management
GPBP	-	Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process
GPH	-	Government of the Philippines
HIPADA	-	Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance
ICTO	-	Information and Communication Office
IEC	-	Information, Education and Communication
IFRM	-	Integrated Fishery Resource Management
IMC	-	Information Management System
IR		Intermediate Result
IRR	-	Implementing Rules and Regulations
IUUF	-	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
LCP	-	League of Cities of the Philippines
LGU	-	Local Government Unit
LMP	-	League of Municipalities of the Philippines
LOP	-	Life of Project
MAO	-	Municipal Agriculture Officer
MARINA	-	Maritime Industry Development Authority
MARPSTA	-	Maritime Police Station
MEAT	-	Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool
MERF	-	Marine Environment Resources Foundation, Inc.
MKBA	-	Marine Key Biodiversity Area
MOA	-	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	-	Marine Protected Area
MSN	-	MPA Support Network
MSU	-	Mindanao State University
NAMRIA	-	National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
NAPC	-	National Anti-Poverty Commission
NCIP	-	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NEDA	-	National Economic and Development Authority
NFARMC	-	National Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council
NFI	-	National Fisheries Institute
NFR	-	NGOs for Fisheries Reform
NFRDI	-	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute
NGA	-	National Government Agencies
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
NOAA	-	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSAP	-	National Stock Assessment Program
NSO	-	National Statistics Office
OEECC	-	Office of Energy, Environment and Climate Change
PACPI	-	Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc.

PAMB	-	Protected Area Management Board
PAO	-	Provincial Agriculture Officer
PCG	-	Philippine Coast Guard
PCRA	-	Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment
PCSD	-	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PEMO	-	Provincial Environment Management Officer
PES	-	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PFO	-	Provincial Fisheries Officer
PGENRO	-	Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Officer
PHIVOLCS	-	Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
PNP-MG	-	Philippine National Police – Maritime Group
PO	-	People’s Organization
PPP	-	Public-Private Partnership
PPPI	-	Polymer Products Philippines, Inc.
QRT	-	Quick Response Team
REECS	-	Resources Environment and Economics Center for Studies, Inc.
RSBSA	-	Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture
RTD	-	Roundtable Discussion
SAF	-	Special Activities Fund
SCTR	-	State of the Coral Triangle Report
SEP	-	Strategic Environmental Plan
SGIDS	-	Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist
SLP	-	Sustainable Livelihood Program
SMRR	-	State of the Marine Resources Report
SNCDMC	-	Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council
SUC	-	State Universities and Colleges
TK	-	Tanggol Kalikasan, Inc.
TTCIA	-	Tagbanua Tribes of Coron Island Association
TWG	-	Technical Working Group
ULAP	-	Union of Local Authorities in the Philippines
UPMSI	-	University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute
UPVFI	-	University of the Philippines in the Visayas Foundation, Inc.
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
US-DOI	-	United States Department of the Interior
VA	-	Vulnerability Assessment
VIP	-	Verde Island Passage
WTP	-	Willingness to Pay
WWF	-	World Wide Fund for Nature
ZSL	-	Zoological Society of London

# **1. Introduction**

The technical assistance and services contract was awarded to Tetra Tech - ARD for the implementation of USAID/Philippines' Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project in June 29, 2012, under contract number AID-492-C-12-00008. The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. The ECOFISH Project is intended to foster fishing sector reforms through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in larger marine conservation areas and involving clusters of Local Government Units (LGUs). It will promote the growth and restore the profitability of fisheries through conservation of ecosystem health and effective management.

The ECOFISH Project is in line with the current U.S. Country Assistance Strategy with respect to assistance directed at reducing threats to biodiversity and improving natural resources and environment. The ECOFISH Project is expected to contribute to achieving "Development Objective 3: Environmental Resilience Improved," particularly "IR3.2 Natural Resources and Environmental Management Improved" of the results framework of USAID/Philippine Mission's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (2012-2016). The Project is also designed to contribute to priority goals and actions laid out in the Philippine Development Plan (2011-2016) particularly Chapter 4 (Competitive and Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries), and Chapter 10 (Protection, Conservation and Rehabilitation of Environment and Natural Resources). This five-year project will provide technical assistance to the Government of the Philippines (GPH), through the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) and implemented in partnership with selected LGUs.

This Year 2 Annual Report documents the activities and interventions during the four quarters of ECOFISH project implementation covering the period 01 October 2013 to 30 September 2014. It likewise describes the focus of the Project for the second year of implementation.

## **2. Project Objectives**

The main objective of the ECOFISH Project is to improve the management of important coastal and marine resources and associated ecosystems that support local economies. It will conserve biological diversity, enhance ecosystem productivity and restore profitability of fisheries in eight marine key biodiversity areas (MKBA) using ecosystem approaches to fisheries management (EAFM) as a cornerstone of improved social, economic and environmental benefits.

The ECOFISH Project is designed to make an impact on eight MKBAs in the country (Figure 1), namely: (1) the Calamianes Group of Islands MKBA, (2) Lingayen Gulf MKBA, (3) Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino MKBA, (4) Danajon Reef MKBA, (5) South Negros MKBA, (6) Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte MKBA, (7) Sulu Archipelago MKBA, and (8) Verde



Island Passage MKBA. They represent all six marine bio-regions of the Philippines and were selected due to their extremely high need for marine biodiversity conservation. These areas are marine ecosystem “hotspots” in the Philippines that mirror the common issues impacting capture fisheries locally and nationally, namely:

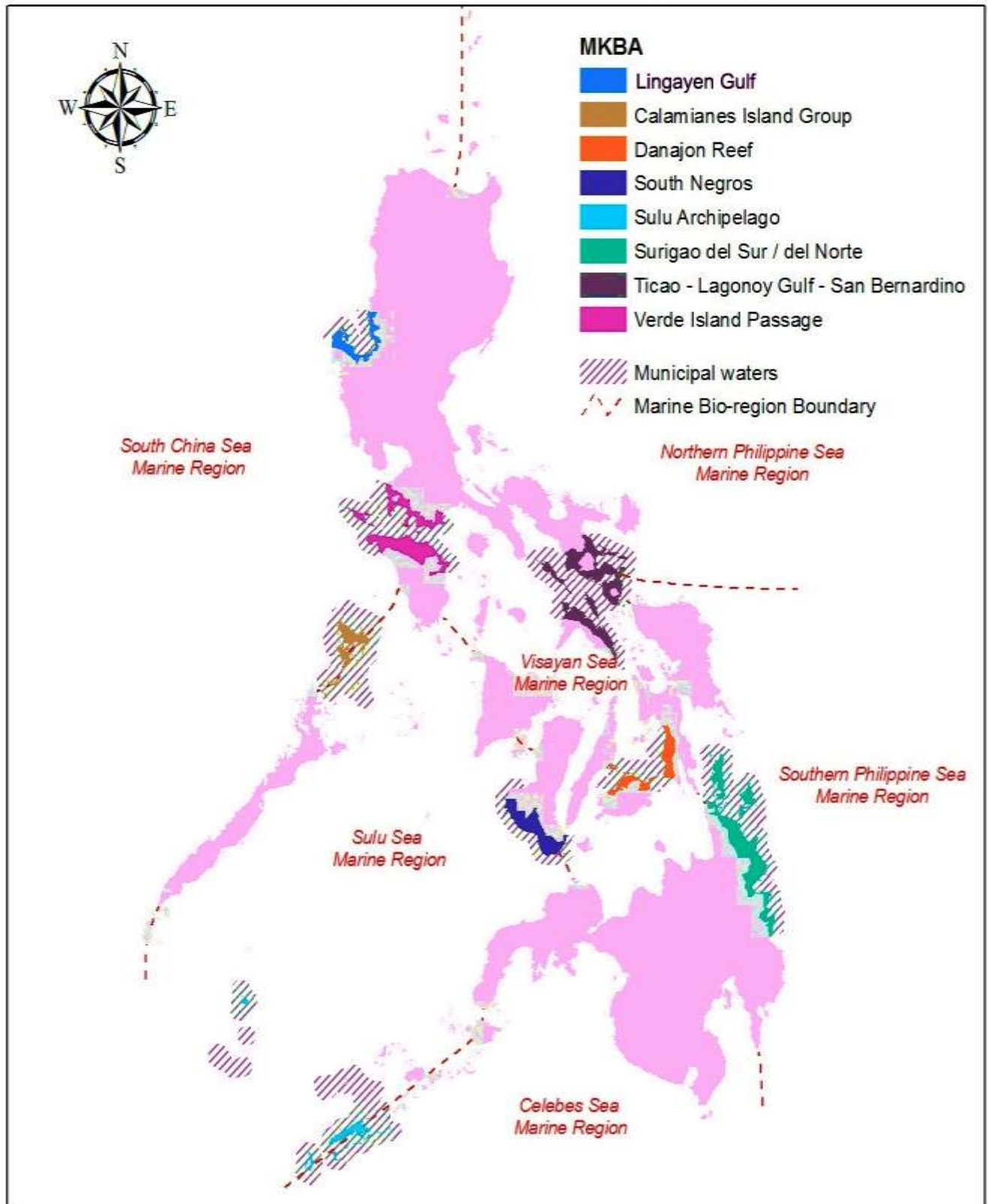
- loss of marine biodiversity;
- declining fish stocks;
- high population growth;
- limited private sector investment;
- inconsistent policies and programs for sustainable fisheries; and
- weak institutional and stakeholder capacity to plan and implement fisheries management.

Although majority of project activities will cut across these eight MKBAs, implementation strategies, focus, priorities, and level of engagements may differ from place to place mainly because each MKBA has unique ecosystem features, opportunities, and threats. Table 1 shows the general ecosystem features, opportunities and threats in the eight MKBAs.

At the end of five years, the 13 ECOFISH project deliverables (see Table 2) are expected to lead to the following key results:

- (A) An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs;
- (B) A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the Project;
- (C) Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management;
- (D) Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH Project created and operating;
- (E) One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management; and
- (F) A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.

Table 2 presents the main relationship between the 13 deliverables and the six key results. Deliverables leading to Results C and D build the foundation for project activities. Those for Results E and F drive the implementation at the MKBA level, and taken together they attain the overall ECOFISH Results A and B.



**Figure 1. Map of the Eight Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (MKBAs) of ECOFISH**

**Table 1. Summary of Ecosystem Features, Opportunities and Threats in the Eight MKBAs**

<b>MKBA</b>	<b>Ecosystem Features</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
Calamianes Island Group	70 percent of the coral and seagrass species recorded in the Philippines	Take advantage of focus on MPA management to support ecotourism and economic alternatives; collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site.	Destructive fishing and uncontrolled live fish trade; one weak LGU reduces impact of inter-LGU alliance activities.
Danajon Reef	One of only three double barrier reefs in the Indo-Pacific region	Take advantage of strong provincial and municipal buy-in of CRM programs to further EAFM goals. Strong LGU alliances.	High fish demand lead to high fishing pressure and illegal fishing.
Lingayen Gulf	Extensive coral reef, seagrass, and soft bottom community supporting the rich fishing ground	Ability to identify specific protection and management interventions from long-term fisheries data sets; leverage high awareness due to past environmental programs to implement EAFM activities.	Severe overfishing and poor water quality in mariculture areas resulting in fish kills; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino	Diverse small pelagic resources; important habitat for dolphins, dugongs, and whale sharks	Utilize long-term data for Lagonoy Gulf and Sorsogon Bay to identify specific interventions; take advantage of active university involvement to participate in project activities and development of employment from growing marine ecotourism sector.	Steep declines in fish stocks; encroachment of commercial vessels; complex marine ecosystem; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
South Negros Island	Deep water harbors; large and small pelagic fishes	Begin to formalize and develop EAFM activities by building on long history of community-based marine protected areas.	No comprehensive assessment of capture fisheries; lack of inter-LGU alliances.
Sulu Archipelago	Rich ecosystem with massive network of coral reefs, seagrass beds and mangroves	Collaborate and leverage work at CTI demonstration site; begin the capacity building by capitalizing on increasing awareness on coastal and fisheries resource management.	Still weak management and law enforcement and lack of formal inter-LGU alliance agreements; unsustained support from some local governments.
Surigao del Sur and Surigao del Norte	Extensive deep water and shallow water coral reef, seagrass and soft bottom resources	Take advantage of strong inter-LGU alliances to leverage and increase fisheries interventions.	Upland erosion and siltation from mine tailings of nearshore impacting habitats.
Verde Island Passage	Considered the ‘center of the center’ of the world’s fish diversity	Long-term marine conservation initiatives by NGOs; CTI demonstration site.	Encroachment of commercial vessels, use of cyanide in aquarium fish collection.



**Table 2. Main Relationship between Project Deliverables and Key Results**

Tasks	Deliverables	Results	
		<p><b>Result A.</b> An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.</p> <p><b>Result B.</b> A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the Project</p>	Final Outcomes
<p><b>Task 1.</b> Establish and Implement a National Training Program</p> <p><b>Task 2.</b> Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the National Level</p> <p><b>Task 3.</b> Create Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p><b>Deliverable 1.</b> Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p><b>Deliverable 2:</b> Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</p> <p><b>Deliverable 3:</b> A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 4:</b> State of the Marine Resources Report</p> <p><b>Deliverable 5:</b> National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</p> <p><b>Deliverable 6:</b> Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</p>	<p><b>Result C.</b> Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.</p> <p><b>Result D.</b> Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH Project created and operating</p>	Build Foundation
<p><b>Task 4.</b> Provide Technical and Advisory Support at the Local Level</p> <p><b>Task 5.</b> Develop a Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters</p> <p><b>Task 6.</b> Identify and Implement Sustainable Financing Programs to Support EAFM Projects</p> <p><b>Task 7.</b> Establish a Baseline on Coastal and Marine Resources and Relevant Socio-Economic Information, Develop and Apply Metrics on Monitoring EAFM Implementation in Target MKBAs</p>	<p><b>Deliverable 7:</b> Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 8:</b> Scientific Studies on Select MKBA- Specific Fish Species</p> <p><b>Deliverable 9:</b> MPA Network Analyses in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 10:</b> Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 11:</b> Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 12:</b> Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs</p> <p><b>Deliverable 13:</b> Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</p>	<p><b>Result E.</b> One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.</p> <p><b>Result F.</b> A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.</p>	Implement Best Practices

### 3. General Work Plan Overview

Guided by the LOP Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No. 01/2013) and the Year 2 Annual Work Plan (ECOFISH Document No. 10/2013), this document describes the host of activities and interventions during the 4 quarters that cover Year 2 of ECOFISH implementation, from 01 October 2013 to 30 September 2014. Major thrusts for this period include the following:

- Put in place interventions that will serve as building block as well as directly influence the achievement of the final outcomes of the Project (namely, an average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass and a 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management);
- Use baseline assessment information as inputs to fisheries management and socioeconomic interventions;
- Establish and strengthen networks of MPAs;
- Establish boat and gear registration to complement FishR;
- Accelerate the establishment of community partnerships;
- Develop the municipal fisheries management toolkit series;
- Institute market-based financing instruments;
- Develop institutional arrangements with stakeholder groups in each MKBA; and
- Develop constituency building strategies.

During the ECOFISH 2013 annual planning exercise, the project team decided to place priority on setting in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the achievement of, the final outcomes of the Project. These are activities that will lead to increase in fisheries biomass and increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. This is over and above the regular activities and deliverables already planned for Year 2 in the Life of Project Work Plan (LOP). This means putting some activities upfront, mainly those that can contribute to achieving the final ECOFISH outcomes.

Figure 2 summarizes the general calendar of ECOFISH activities and interventions for the life of project showing a higher time resolution during the second year of project implementation. These activities and interventions are planned to culminate during specific periods and their scheduled year of completion are described in the LOP Work Plan. As indicated in the figure, most activities running through Year 2 have started before or at the onset of Year 2. Note that these activities and interventions are planned to culminate during specific periods beyond the current report coverage, as described in the Life of Project Work Plan.

Y1	Y2												Y3	Y4	Y5
	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S			
Start up	E L E C T I O N													E L E C T I O N	
LOP work plan															
Consult with LGU															
Revisit LGUs															
Baseline Assessment													Moni- toring		Moni- toring
Policy needs assessment	Policy forums, policy studies to integrate EAFM, MPA and CCA, enforcement, revenue generation, sustainable financing and Public-Private Partnership														
Training needs assessment	Training and capacity-building activities (including trainors' trainings) and putting in place fisheries resources management interventions and mechanisms														
Training designs and EAFM curriculum															
Registry of users of municipal waters															
Network of MPA or fish sanctuary															
Studies to support species-specific or gear-specific management															
National database on EAFM															
State of the marine resources report															
Development of PPP portfolio															
Establishment of private sector partnerships															
Cost benefit analysis of LGUs fisheries management operations															
Establishment of market-based instruments															
Establishment of PES & other sustainable financing programs															
Early fisheries management actions (consultation with stakeholders, action planning, and implementation)													Fisheries management actions from the Inter-LGU Management Plan		
Inter-LGU Fisheries and Coastal Resources Management Planning														Revisit Inter-LGU Mgmt. Plans	

**Figure 2. General Calendar of ECOFISH Activities and Interventions Highlighting Year 2 Activities and Period Covered by the Year 2 Report**

## **4. Year 2 Accomplishments**

Descriptions of the key activities/interventions under each of the 13 deliverables during the Year 2 of ECOFISH implementation are given below.

### **4.1. Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change**

Sub-activities in Year 1 that were continued in Year 2 included the sharing of results of forums with key partners and the general public; conduct of policy studies for relevant implementing agency for consideration/adoption and monitoring of progress of agencies' adoption; conduct policy studies on revenue generation, sustainable financing, and PPPs to support sustainable fisheries management.

In Year 2, lessons from the forums on administrative adjudication and Conditional Cash Transfer and Bottom Up Budgeting were shared and are being used in the orientation-trainings conducted in the MKBAs and incorporated in draft ordinances. The scientific forum on oil spills was also shared with the relevant agencies in Cebu, and was well covered by media for sharing with the public.

The policy assistance to BFAR on FishR has been very productive. FishR continues to be a banner program of BFAR. As of September 2014, FishR recorded almost 1.2 million fisherfolk registrants, or about two-thirds of the estimated number of fisherfolk nationwide. ECOFISH provided assistance in the preparation of the FishR concept and implementation strategy, as well as technical support in one site to add connectivity using TV White Space. ECOFISH invested \$10,000 (PhP440,000) in project activities, which was supplemented by \$60,000 (PhP2.6 million) in PPP with Microsoft; BFAR spent at least \$5.5 million (PhP240 million) to implement FishR nationwide. LGUs also invested significantly in the field implementation for FishR for community engagement, on top of the incentives provided by BFAR for data collection.





ECOFISH, Smart Communications, ICITAP and PNP Maritime Group officials held a joint planning meeting in Camp Crame in Quezon City. The PNP Maritime Group, led by PSSupts. Danilo Maligalig and Jonathan Ablang, ECOFISH technical staff and ICITAP's Timothy Teal laid out plans for the formal launch of 700-DALOY or **Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity**. 700-DALOY was launched in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi on 28 May 2014.

The Adopt-a-MPA Project of the PNP-MG has also been a big success, with PNP-MG linking with LGUs and local stakeholders to increase visibility and enforcement actions in the areas of the MPAs. ECOFISH is working with the PNP-MG to develop a monitoring and reporting system for assessing the effectiveness of the AMPA Project.

The policy paper on Climate Change Adaptation and Fisheries has not been shared publicly, but the recommendations in the paper have been followed. For example, ECOFISH conducted scientific research and provided policy support for the closed season for small pelagics in Balayan Bay (Verde Island Passage MKBA) as an offshoot of recommendations to enhance the resilience of economically important fish stocks.

For Year 2, ECOFISH provided policy support for the following:

- **700DALOY** – The Project facilitated the partnership between the PNP-MG and Smart Communications to develop a mobile text-based reporting system for violations of fisheries laws. This platform was first piloted in Tawi-Tawi (Sulu Archipelago MKBA), and will be rolled out nationwide. The PNP-MG issued a Command Memorandum Circular No. 05-2014 (April 2014) to officially adopt and implement 700DALOY.
- **National Greenbelt Bill** – An offshoot of discussions during the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan consultations, ECOFISH was requested to prepare a draft bill to protect mangroves and promote the establishment of mangrove and beach forest greenbelts around the country. The bill was circulated among experts. After several consultations held by NFR and others, the bill was sponsored by Sen. Paulo Benigno Aquino IV and filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 2179.
- **NSAP Training Curriculum Adoption** – ECOFISH provided support for the revision and updating of the National Stock Assessment Program training curriculum that has been approved and implemented all over the country. ECOFISH prepared a draft Memorandum Order to officially adopt the revised NSAP training curriculum.

- Fish Landing Guidelines – BFAR and NAPC requested ECOFISH to provide technical inputs and facilitation assistance for the drafting of the guidelines for establishment of fish landings for municipal fisherfolk in selected LGUs. Funding for the establishment of the fish landings will come from the national budget of 2015. The draft guidelines are currently under final review and will be approved as soon as the 2015 budget is approved.

In addition to the above, ECOFISH also participated in the consultations held by BFAR to review the Fisheries Code penalty provisions, partly in response to the issues raised by the EU on IUUF. BFAR has submitted a bill to Congress proposing these amendments.

As a result of the success of FishR, BFAR is planning to implement a complementary program on boat and gear registration, to be called BoatR. ECOFISH also provided initial inputs on the program design and logistics. The program will be launched in November 2014 (Year 3 of the Project).

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 1.

<b>Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Conduct studies on EAFM policies and policy implementation in providing an enabling environment for EAFM</b>				
Conduct study to revitalize fishing boat registration under Executive Order No. 305 including gear licensing (BoatR initial assistance).	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups</b>				
Conduct two policy forums with relevant stakeholder groups. (Possible subjects of the forums include climate change impact on fisheries, administrative adjudication, fishing boat registration, FADs, closed seasons, wildlife trafficking). (completed 7 forums).	C			
<b>Conduct policy studies to integrate CTI themes, (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) into existing policy instruments</b>				
Conduct policy study or studies on climate smart MPA networks and resiliency of fishing livelihoods (National Greenbelt Bill).	O	C		
<b>Conduct policy studies on revenue generation, sustainable financing, and PPPs to support sustainable fisheries management</b>				
Provide technical assistance to NAPC in drafting the Poverty Reduction Program for Fisheries. (Fish Landing Guidelines).	O	O	C	
Provide technical assistance to PNP-MG in formulating their Adopt a MPA Project and Barangay Patrol Action Teams Program (700DALOY).	O	O	C	
<b>Team Lead:</b> Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, Chief of Party <b>Key Partners:</b> BFAR, DA, DENR, DILG, NEDA, DTI, DOF, DOJ, DBM, LMP, NFR, NFARMC, commercial fishing sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 1 during the reporting period include:

- Bohol Scientific Forum on Earthquake and Natural Disasters – After the disastrous earthquake in Bohol, partner LGUs asked for support in helping them understand the science behind disasters, and its impact on lives and livelihoods in the future (e.g. a large portion of the coasts in the affected LGUs was uplifted by the earthquake). ECOFISH invited experts to Bohol to speak in a public forum and meet with Bohol officials. The forum was much appreciated, and well covered by media – extending the reach of the knowledge all over the province.
- NFARMC RTD Coral Propagation FAO – BFAR requested ECOFISH to comment on a series of drafts of the proposed FAO on coral propagation. The NFARMC also requested ECOFISH to host a scientific forum on the topic that can draw more participants and comments - in preparation for a formal deliberation on the FAO. The forum was very

insightful and the discussion was very candid. The draft FAO is still awaiting approval from NFARMC.

- Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit – ECOFISH co-sponsored the 3<sup>rd</sup> Provincial Fisherfolk Summit of Negros Occidental. ECOFISH led in the facilitation for the summit, and provided technical inputs on the value of registration/licensing in fisheries management, and on the participatory local budgeting process. At the end of the summit, the fisherfolk representatives elected their provincial leaders who then prepared their priority agenda for the next 2 years.
- Batangas Environmental Summit – ECOFISH co-sponsored the Summit where the Provincial Government presented its priorities and initiatives, and partners (including ECOFISH) presented their activities. The objective of the Summit was to create synergy and complementation of all groups.
- VIP Seasonal Closure (forum series) – ECOFISH facilitated the conduct of a series of forums on a proposed seasonal closure for small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage – this includes a TWG meeting to report the findings of the scientific study made by ECOFISH to narrow down the scope and period for the closed season, individual LGU consultations, and a forum formally presenting the proposal to the provincial government.



12 May 2014, Roundtable Discussion with US Ambassador Philip Goldberg at Aiyanar Resort, Mabini, Batangas. ECOFISH Chief of Party Gerry Silvestre discusses the Project's plans to address the remaining threats in the Verde Island Passage (VIP). From left: Luis Awitan (Batangas PGENRO), Silvestre, Joseph Foltz, and Ambassador Goldberg.

- RTD with Ambassador Philip Goldberg – Ambassador Goldberg led a roundtable discussion on the status of marine biodiversity conservation in the Philippines, leading up to the 'Our Ocean' forum organized by the US State Department in Washington.
- FAO 246 Consultations – as a result of the cases filed by several operators of Danish seines and modified Danish seines (DS/MDS) around the country, BFAR requested

ECOFISH to conduct consultations with affected municipal fishers on the impact of DS/MDS operations. ECOFISH conducted consultations in Northern Cebu and Northern Negros – areas outside of ECOFISH MKBAs, but where operators coming from the ECOFISH MKBAs are fishing.

These activities will be followed through in Year 3 to include as well other interventions such as the Project’s assistance to BoatR, fish examiners training/certification program, and a proposal for a policy framework on seasonal closures nationwide. Since most of the major policy deliverables at the national level have been met, the Project will shift its focus on MKBA-level policy assistance and forums. This is necessary in order to ensure formal adoption of the management interventions that will be proposed by the Project (such as spatial plans, FRM plans, MPA networks, closed seasons, etc.).

Overall, at the end of Year2, ECOFISH completed the policy studies on : (1) FishR concept; framework and design; (2) AMPA concept/design; and (3) Climate change adaptation strategies/recommendations. In Year 2, ECOFISH has completed four policy studies, namely: (1) Command Memo circular of 700DALOY; (2) the National Greenbelt Bill; (3) FOO adopting the NSAP Training Curriculum; and (4) the Fish Landing Guidelines. Overall, the ECOFISH Project has completed 7 policy studies during its first 2 years of implementation.

## **4.2. Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change**

Majority of the sub-activities on developing general training materials, toolkits and IEC materials and specialized law enforcement procedural handbook and instructional video were sidelined in Year 2 because of coordination difficulties. BFAR and LGU partners were focused on responding to the impacts of the earthquake (in Bohol) and Supertyphoon Yolanda/Haiyan. Nevertheless, ECOFISH continued work in drafting an LGU Start-Up Guide, a training curriculum and materials for fish examiners, and IEC materials for LGUs. BFAR has made a commitment to focus on the training for fish examiners in Year 3.

In addition, ECOFISH will partner with NOAA to conduct an EAFM trainer’s training for Year 3. ECOFISH will work with BFAR and local experts to customize the training curriculum and materials to the Philippines, for training both BFAR and LGU staff as well as selected partners from state universities and colleges (SUCs).

The writing of the case studies will continue through Years 3 and 4 and will rely on the documentation of best practices and determination of impacts of the selected cases. At present, the proposed case studies include:

<b>Case Studies Under Development</b>
<b>Lingayen Gulf MKBA</b> <b>San Fernando City CFARMC Model</b> - The City of San Fernando FARMC has received the Regional Gawad Saka Award in 2014 and exemplifies practices that may be emulated by other

local FARMCS. With the coming re-organization of FARMCs into the Integrated Aquatic and Fisheries Management Councils, the CFARMC of San Fernando could highlight positive experiences for other municipalities to learn from. Of importance is the role of LGU support for local FARMCs.

**Contribution of Fisheries Law Enforcement to Tourism in Alaminos City** - Fisheries law enforcement in Alaminos City has had constant support from the local government throughout the years. This experience could exemplify how resources spent for strengthening fisheries law enforcement can positively contribute not only to habitat protection and increase in fisheries biomass, but also to long-term benefits to income of local communities through tourism.

**Calamianes Island Group MKBA**

**Impact of post-Yolanda (Haiyan) Assistance to the Fisheries Sector** – In the aftermath of the super-typhoon, BFAR and other groups provided boats and fishing gear to local fishers who have lost their means of livelihood. While the provision of fishing assets and facilities would address immediate livelihood needs, any placement of these physical resources must consider the pressure these could create on fishery resources and the long-term food security of fisherfolk. Additional assets and facilities may result to increased fishing activities that can further harm degraded and overfished stocks or critical marine habitats in CIG.

**Marine Spatial Planning for sustainable fisheries management** - The experience of Calamianes Island Group in using MSP as a tool in formulating the fisheries management strategies helped them plan on the use of marine space and the interactions between its uses, in order to balance demands for development with the need to protect marine ecosystems and to achieve social and economic objectives in an open and planned way. It can be replicated in other areas specially those areas that has boundary conflict issues.

**Verde Island Passage MKBA**

**LGU-led seasonal closure for small pelagics in Balayan Bay** – the Provincial Government responded to the call of fishers to study and propose a closed season for commercially-important fish species in order to allow recovery of the dwindling stocks. The proposed seasonal closure was developed through a consultative process; expectation for voluntary compliance is high because of the livelihood assistance provided by DSWD to affected families.

**Batangas Environment Response Team (BERT): Strengthening Fishery and**

**Environmental Law Enforcement** - Batangas is part of the Verde Island Passage, an area with rich fishing grounds and eco-tourism attractions and which is recognized as the world's "center of the center of marine shore fish biodiversity." Illegal fishing, however, continue to be a problem in many of the municipalities. The formation of the provincial BDN as well as MPA networks facilitated cooperation and information exchange that improved efforts to apprehend and deter illegal fishers.

**Ticao Pass - Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino MKBA**

**Lawlaw fisheries (potential for closed season)** - The spawning grounds of *lawlaw* (sardine) stocks caught in San Vicente and Bulan are in Albay area outside the MKBA - this will make an interesting story for a proposed closed season later because of the scale of the management intervention.

**Fishing down the food web in San Vicente and Capul** - Over time, the dominant catch has changed from *galunggong* (roundscad) to *bolinao* (anchovy). The story could be about how the community is made aware of what this means, and what to do to avert overfishing.



<b>Southern Negros MKBA</b> <b>Inter-LGU alliance on law enforcement for improved ecosystem based fisheries governance</b> - In 2006, the 3rd Congressional District Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC) was launched with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. This district-wide enforcement council is a joint undertaking of the Municipalities of Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City and Basay. They agreed to share their resources to promote programs geared towards conservation, protection and maintenance of marine ecosystem.
<b>Surigao del Norte and del Sur MKBA</b> <b>Settlement of municipal water boundary disputes</b> – facilitating the resolution of disputes through technical inputs and provision of ‘negotiating space.’

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 2.

Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change				
Project Intervention/Activity		2014		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Review existing toolkits (Municipal Fisheries Management source book (Volume 1), and other guidance				
Draft the overall and individual sections working outline of the municipal fisheries management toolkit.	O	O	O	O
Develop individual sections of the municipal fisheries management toolkit (e.g. climate smart MPAs; registration system for fisherfolk, boat and gear, etc.).	O	O	O	O
Develop case studies on the integration of CTI themes (EAFM, MPAs, and CCA) at the site level				
Identify and draft a case study on EAFM, MPA and CCA, at least one for each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
Develop and produce Fishery Law Enforcement Procedural Handbook				
Develop the Fish Examiner’s Training Manual.	O	O	O	O
Produce fishery law enforcement instructional video				
Develop the Fish Examiner’s Training video.	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: IEC Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist, and MERF				
Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, PNP, LMP, university network, NFR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 2 during the reporting period include:

- Working draft of the LGU Start-Up Guide – revised to complement the NOAA proposed Training Curriculum on EAFM. The LGU Start-Up Guide revolves around the LGU preparing an initial or “Start-Up” Sustainable Municipal Fisheries Management Plan in 10 easy steps. This is a learning-by-doing guide that considers what the LGU can do on

its own, given its existing capacity. After going through with the Start-Up Guide, the LGU should be ready for the more comprehensive and conceptual EAFM.

- Drafts of 'Activities' and selected 'Methods and Tools' to complement the Start-Up Guide – with step-by-step instructions and tips for processing outputs.
- Agreement with BFAR on the process and logistics for the development and implementation of a revised training curriculum for fish examiners, and accompanying manual and video. The draft revised training curriculum and materials prepared by ECOFISH during Year 1 and 2 will serve as inputs.

The deliverables on training curriculum and materials for fish examiners, and the LGU start-Up Guide are expected to be completed and adopted in Year 3.

#### **4.3. Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs**

In Year 1, the Project has already put in place a database system that serves as a receptacle for encoded information from fish catch monitoring, registration of fishers, boats and gears, and socioeconomic monitoring of ECOFISH. This system already supports routines for data capture,



USAID/Philippines' Ecosystems Improved for Sustainable Fisheries (ECOFISH) Project experts acted as resource persons for the Philippine Government's National Fisheries Research and Development Institute conference on its national stock assessment program (NSAP) last 01-03 September 2014. The NSAP assesses the country's fishing grounds to provide species-specific and time-series information on marine capture fisheries for management purposes. This conference summarized the best available scientific information on pelagic fisheries for presentation during the 16th Tuna Congress on 04-05 September in General Santos City.

retrieval, and some analysis. This is also in support of, and in line with, the baseline assessment and monitoring plan developed by the Project to measure the key result areas.

The development of various protocols for data entry, retrieval, and analysis was completed in Year 2 and this incorporated the socioeconomic information into the database. The team has



started development of routines for use by LGU personnel in accessing and processing data on registration and licensing. The elements, scope of coverage, and utility of the current version of the database was initially presented to the participants during the Registration and Licensing Training in Calamianes Island Group MKBA. ECOFISH discussed with BFAR's Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS) team the compatibility issues of the FishR and the municipal fishing boat registration databases. The idea is to adopt to the national database system and not develop a project database system. The same will also apply in the case of the proposed national municipal fishing boat registration system (BoatR). In the subsequent years of project implementation, a database on EAFM should be able to integrate information from various fisheries management initiatives in the country and the consolidated information from the national EAFM database will likewise feed into the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR). The overall general principle being followed is for all the project database to feed into the national database and that the Project should not create its own customized database.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 3.

<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Develop national database</b>				
Incorporate socioeconomic and fishery law enforcement information into the database.	O	C		
Improve or revise routines for capture and retrieval of fisherfolk, fishing boat, and fishing gear registration and licensing to be compatible with BFAR-FIMC system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Develop protocol for data collection &amp; entry in the national database</b>				
Develop protocol for entry and retrieval of data using the ECOFISH fisheries, socioeconomic and enforcement baseline data.	O	O	C	
Develop protocol for entry and retrieval of data on fishing boat and fishing gear registration.	O	O	C	
Test the use of database system in selected focal areas of ECOFISH (particularly the former FISH Project sites).			O	O
<b>Develop protocols for fish catch monitoring system to become part of the National Stock Assessment Program</b>				
Present to NSAP the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results.	O	O	C	
Finalize agreement on sets of information to be uploaded for NSAP use.	O	O	O	O
<b>Develop protocols for benchmarking local EAFM</b>				
Finalize EAFM benchmarking and to include socioeconomics and enforcement benchmarks.	O	C		
Incorporate the EAFM benchmarks into the database system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct training on the national database system</b>				

Conduct training on the national EAFM database in at least 2 MKBAs.			O	O
Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF Key Partners: BFAR, DILG, LMP, DENR				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 3 during the reporting period include:

- Incorporated socioeconomic and fishery law enforcement information into the database.
- Finalized EAFM benchmarking and to include socioeconomics and enforcement benchmarks.
- Presented to the participants during the Registration and Licensing Training in Calamianes the elements, scope of coverage, and utility of the current version of the database.
- Discussed with BFAR's Fisheries and Information Management System (FIMS) team the compatibility issues of the FishR and the municipal fishing boat registration databases.
- Preparation work with BFAR in support of its initiative to develop the national municipal fishing vessel registration system or BoatR.

#### 4.4. Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report

In Year 1, ECOFISH conducted a review of the SCTR and other reports on the state of the fisheries resources, coastal resources, and the marine environment in general and met with key partners to present the results of the review. The Project developed the framework of the SMRR and generally agreed on tasks in drafting and further development of the report.

In Year 2 the ECOFISH, through MERF, started conducting review sessions and workshops with partners to draft various sections of the report with the goal of coming up with the first consolidated draft by Year 3. The team conducted a writeshop with partners from BFAR and LGUs, and agreed on the content and outline of the report. This writeshop also included a stock taking of site-level available information, sources of information, and agreed on strategies to access these information. In collaboration with NSAP, the ECOFISH team conducted a training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks. These sets of information will also form part of the SMRR and is intended to be updated on a regular basis.

ECOFISH, through MERF will continue the development of the report and will have the first draft by Year 3. The permanent home institution and responsible institution to update the report will be discussed and agreed upon with BFAR, NFRDI and MERF during the subsequent years of project implementation.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 4.

<b>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Conduct workshops and review sessions with partners to develop sections of the report</b>				
Finalize outline of the State of the Marine Resources Report.	O	C		
Workshops, writeshops and review sessions with partners to draft various sections of the report.	O	O	O	O
<b>Prepare State of the Marine Resource Report</b>				
Develop a working draft of the State of the Marine Resource Report.	O	O	O	O
<b>Team Lead:</b> Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, GIS-KIM Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, MERF <b>Key Partners:</b> BFAR, DENR, LMP, university network, WWF				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 4 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH finalized the subcontract with MERF to take the lead in developing the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR).
- MERF further enhanced the framework of the SMRR and finalized with the rest of the ECOFISH team the detailed program of work for Year 2 including the scope and participation of various partners and stakeholders in the review sessions, workshops and writeshops for the drafting of the report.

- ECOFISH team through MERF conducted a writeshop with partners from BFAR and LGUs to develop the expanded outline, content and scope of the SMRR.



A workshop on the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR) was held at the University of the Philippines – Marine Science Institute (UP-MSI) on 20-22 June 2014. The SMRR employs the DPSIR approach in establishing a national fisheries database management system. DPSIR, which stands for Drivers, Pressures, State, Impacts, Response, is an analytical framework for coming up with a mix of options to reduce the threats, develop capacities and sustain fisheries use in the Philippines. ECOFISH Deputy Chief of Party Nygiel Armada opened the workshop while Dr. Porfirio Alino of UP-MSI discussed the DPSIR approach of the SMRR.

- The ECOFISH served as resource persons for the 5-day training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks that will ultimately form part of the SMRR.
- Assisted the NSAP in the recalculation and refinement of estimates of fish population parameters and exploitation rates value and selection of keystone species to become part of the SMRR.

#### **4.5. Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted**

The development of a training program for various elements of EAFM and their delivery through the Life of Project is a continuing process. The EAFM elements have been identified but their schedule of delivery will depend on the current capacity and readiness in the MKBAs. The Project is utilizing the results of the EAFM benchmarking exercises and the delivery of the training courses are targeted to the needs of the municipalities in the MKBAs as manifested by their benchmarks.

The national EAFM training courses have not been completed, pending agreement with BFAR on the need and focus of the EAFM training curriculum. In the last quarter of Year 2, BFAR has agreed to adopt/adapt the Essential EAFM Training Course developed by NOAA and other partners. ECOFISH and NOAA will conduct an EAFM trainer's training in the early part of Year 3. ECOFISH will work with BFAR and local experts through Year 3 to customize the training curriculum and materials to the situation/conditions in the Philippines, for training both BFAR staff and LGU partners. The customized EAFM curriculum and module materials will constitute the training courses under Deliverable 5.

In Year 2 ECOFISH has conducted 2 trainings with national partners and 36 trainings with local partners.

### **Trainings Conducted with National and Local Partners**

<b>List of Trainings/Workshop</b>	<b>Pax</b>		<b>Date (from-to)</b>	<b>Venue</b>
	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>		
Community Partnership and Business Planning Training	23	14	01-03 Oct 2013	Tagbilaran City, Bohol
Regional FARMC Congress: 50th FISH Conservation Week Celebration	26	11	16 Oct 2013	San Fernando City, La Union
Forum on Fisheries Registration, Licensing and Permitting System	23	11	17 Oct 2013	Basay, Negros Oriental
Municipal Fishery Compliance and Enforcement Training	39	0	29-30 Oct 2013	Bayawan City, Negros Oriental
MPA Management Planning Workshop	19	17	18-21 Nov 2013	Sipalay City
Public Forum on Disasters, Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity	44	28	04 Dec 2013	Tagbilaran City
MPA MEAT Validation Workshop	27	3	22 Jan 2014	Tubigon, Bohol
MPA MEAT Validation and Assessment Workshop	5	1	23 Jan 2014	Buenavista, Bohol
ECOFISH Orientations of Pangasinan LGUs and Fisheries 101	31	19	30 Jan 2014	Lingayen, Pangasinan
MPA MEAT Validation and Assessment Workshop	9	3	11 Feb 2014	Clarin, Bohol
Writeshop on the Updating and Finalization of Provincial CRM Framework Plan	11	15	11-13 Feb 2014	Surigao City
MPA MEAT Validation and Assessment Workshop	15	2	20 Feb 2014	Inabanga, Bohol
MPA Seminar-Workshop and AMPA Project Launching	45	11	27-28 Feb 2014	Coron, Palawan
MPA MEAT Validation and Assessment Workshop	28	5	28 Feb 2014	Getafe, Bohol
Orientation and Creation of Adjudication Board	13	6	07 Mar 2014	Tubigon, Bohol
Public Forum/Workshop: Sharing of ECOFISH Baseline Results	26	13	10 Mar 2014	Coron, Palawan
Coastal/Fishery Law Enforcement Appreciation Course for Municipal Enforcement Units	52	4	11-13 Mar 2014	Coron, Palawan

MPA Training Course 1	15	3	18-19 Mar 2014	Alaminos City, Pangasinan
Basic Coastal/Fishery Law Enforcement Training	70	8	19-21 Mar 2014	Surigao City
Training-Workshop on Municipal Fisheries Registration and Licensing	18	9	25-28 Mar 2014	Coron, Palawan
Batangas Environmental Summit 2014	45	27	26-28 Mar 2014	Batangas City
Orientation Training on 700DALOY	33	9	07-09 Apr 2014	Bongao, Tawi-Tawi
Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning	36	11	14-16 Apr 2014	Dumaguete City
EAFM Compliance Promotion and Enforcement Training	42	3	22-25 Apr 2014	Bacolod City
Marine Sanctuary Forum	33	18	28-29 May 2014	Surigao City
Seagrass/Shellfish Assessment and FGDs for the Protection and Management of Siganids	46	4	02 Jun 2014	Rosario, La Union
MPA Participatory Planning Workshop	36	9	03-05 Jun 2014	Hinobaan, Negros Occidental
Baseline Assessment Results Presentation	26	8	09 Jun 2014	Sorsogon City
Law Enforcement Assessment	80	9	10-11 Jun 2014	Sorsogon City
Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning	27	16	18-20 Jun 2014	Dauis, Bohol
Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning	29	14	02-04 Jul 2014	Surigao City
Shark Summit 2014: RTD and Workshop on the Conservation and Management of Sharks	33	24	14 Aug 2014	Cebu City
Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning	20	11	18-20 Aug 2014	San Fernando City, La Union
Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning	10	10	27-29 Aug 2014	Lian, Batangas
MPA MEAT Validation and Assessment Workshop	39	11	05 Sep 2014	Bien Unido, Bohol
Workshop on Municipal Water Delineation and Administrative Adjudication	24	9	16-17 Sep 2014	Surigao City

The assistance for QRT capacity-building is in a flux, pending clear signals from BFAR on what ECOFISH can provide as assistance. At present, the only clear agreement is for the development and implementation of the revised fish examiner's training curriculum. The assumption is that all fish examiners are part of the QRT.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 5.

<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Develop or refine training courses for the EAFM curriculum</b>				

Refine courses to cover the following: MPA establishment, law enforcement, fishery registration systems, fisheries use zoning, fisheries management planning, EAFM executive course, formulation of local legislation, administrative adjudication, vulnerability assessment, and monitoring and evaluation.	O	O	O	O
Develop courses to cover the following: fish examiners training, fisheries catch monitoring, species- and gear-specific management, constituency building and conflict management, establishment of MPA networks, socioeconomic baseline assessment and monitoring, database management (catch monitoring, socioeconomic, registration and licensing).	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliver training courses for national government, LGUs, NGOs, and university network in MKBAs (at least 4 per MKBA)</b>				
Deliver training courses for national partners (2).	O	O	O	C
Deliver training courses for local partners (36).	O	O	O	C
<b>Conduct training series for National Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement</b>				
Fish examiner's training module review and trainer's training.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct training series for MKBA Quick Response Team on fishery law enforcement</b>				
Trainings in each MKBA on fish examiner's training, basic and advance law enforcement.	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist, IEC Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist Key Partners: BFAR, DENR, Philippine Coast Guard, PNP, NFARMC and LMP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 5 during the reporting period include:

- In several meetings with the BFAR National Director, Regional Directors and key BFAR units, the project team discussed priorities and scope of trainings to be conducted under the Project and how these can be integrated into the proposed national capacity-building framework for LGUs that BFAR wants to implement. BFAR's interest is that the LGUs develop the technical and administrative capacity to absorb the assistance packages provided by BFAR to the fisheries sector through the LGUs.
- ECOFISH conducted "benchmarking" consultation-workshops in all eight MKBAs, which brought together LGU partners and local representatives of national agencies and civil society to discuss the state of fisheries and coastal management in their area and identify policy and capacity-building priorities. The benchmarking workshops were able to draw the governance baselines (using pre-designed indicators) that will be used to measure progress of LGU partners in developing their capacity for implementing EAFM. Based on the results of these workshops, ECOFISH will design locally-appropriate policy development and training activities that will be linked to other project interventions such as fisheries and biodiversity assessment, socio-economic assessment, MPA networking, fisheries management planning, etc.



- The ECOFISH team worked closely with BFAR national units and regional offices to review existing training programs and develop initial ideas for institutionalizing capacity-building for LGU fisheries staff using a comprehensive, structured, but locally-responsive curriculum that can be used for continuous capacity-building of LGUs. The initial consultations will guide ECOFISH in designing a curriculum, with specific courses, that will be initially offered to ECOFISH partner LGUs. ECOFISH is also exploring a partnership with national and local institutions of higher learning to incorporate or adopt the ECOFISH training curriculum as part of advanced degree programs.
- Project specialists met with key BFAR officials to discuss priorities on fishery law enforcement training, especially for the QRTs that BFAR has enlisted. The initial idea is for the national and regional QRTs to join the project trainings related to law enforcement and act as resource persons or co-trainees. However, it appears that the QRTs are not yet confident enough to be trainers. We have not initiated a formal assessment of the capacity of QRTs (which BFAR should spearhead, if needed), but instead, will make the assessment of individual QRT members in the project sites as part of the design of trainings in each of the MKBAs.



ECOFISH Deputy Chief of Party Nygiel Armada talks about EAFM principles and practices as applied in the Philippine context with national technical staff of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). The training, held last 19-23 May 2014 in Quezon City, was a collaboration between ECOFISH and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI).

- Law enforcement capacity assessment workshops were conducted in the project sites. However, this was participated mainly by LGU representatives, with regional QRT in attendance, where available. QRT role in trainings is still not clear pending organizational restructuring in BFAR.
- In consultation with BFAR, ECOFISH will work with US-DOI assistance to prepare a comprehensive Fisheries Law Enforcement Training Program that will outline the administrative, logistical and substantive aspects of BFAR's training program for its own fish wardens as well as LGU accredited *bantay dagats*. Under this framework of FLE Training, ECOFISH will prepare the training program for Fish Examiners – which has



been identified as a gap. This training is critical for enforcement against blast fishing that has been identified as a primary threat to ecosystems and fisheries in many MKBAs.

- ECOFISH has been instrumental in establishing linkages among LGUs and law enforcement agencies in the project sites through the law enforcement capacity assessment workshops and simple ‘handshake’ meetings. This has resulted in renewed interest and willingness to cooperate in fisheries law enforcement. For example, in Tawi-Tawi, ECOFISH brought together the local commanders of the PNP, PNP-MG, Navy, and PCG with the Governor and other LGU officials to talk about immediate measures to curb illegal fishing, especially blast fishing, using an InfoBoard system provided by Smart Communications under a PPP arrangement. In Coron, meetings with PNP-MG and LGUs resulted in deployment of a boat of the PNP-MG to Calamianes to strengthen enforcement.
- The Coastal Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Change Adaptation Trainors Training was conducted on 23-27 September 2013 for ECOFISH site coordinators and selected partners.

#### **4.6. Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established**

At the end of Year 2, ECOFISH has completed 6 strategic partnerships with various private partners and established 82 community partnerships in support to the Project’s EAFM interventions.

Ranging from the traditional to the innovative, the public-private partnerships (PPPs) facilitated and executed by ECOFISH over the course of Year 2 have altogether contributed towards mobilizing resources and deploying novel solutions to address challenges in fisherfolk registration, enforcement, stock data collection, livelihoods, capacity building, and organizational strengthening at the community level.

Specifically, strategic partnerships have been facilitated and executed by ECOFISH to establish connectivity in remote coastal municipalities in Bohol to support the DA-BFAR’s National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration (FishR); establish a secure hotline for the Philippine National Police-Maritime Group (PNP-MG) to improve information flows between the public, the police, and other enforcement agencies to address marine wildlife violations in Tawi-Tawi and beyond; assist fisherfolk communities in the Calamianes to recover from the damage of Supertyphoon Yolanda through targeted fiber glass boat making, training and



Species-Specific Assessment and Trial of Spawning Potential Ratio Method for Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef a PPP between the Bohol Province-USAID-PACPI hosted its NFI liaison Jeremy Crawford who reiterated the opportunity to utilize the data being collected as contributions towards the Fisheries Improvement Program (FIP) for Blue Crabs. The visiting PACPI contingent visited one of 5 sampling stations under the partnership in the San Pedro fish landing site, and the data management supervisor demonstrated how blue crab is assessed under the SPR method through sorting, measurement, use of instruments, and interviews.

distribution; conduct a unique grassroots-based species specific assessment to inform the sustainable management of blue swimming crab in Bohol; develop and implement a pilot PPP training program for LGU champions to support EAFM in ECOFISH sites; and establish a facility for incubating prospective social enterprises for competitive market access.

Community partnerships, on the other hand, have been integral in solidifying community buy-in and benefits arising from strategic partnerships, as well as mobilizing, organizing and capacitating local government units and people's organizations' access to resources from government facilities such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development, National Anti-Poverty Commission, Department of Labor and Employment and others.

As ECOFISH builds on the momentum and the mileage generated by these partnerships, the Project will continue to leverage the gains made by these PPPs as a model to establish more strategic collaborations with the public and private sectors and local communities, and sustain positive impacts beyond the project lifetime. As a strategy, PPPs will now be

geared towards more directly assisting and complementing the Project's objective of establishing social enterprises as means to improve employment across ECOFISH sites.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 6.

<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives</b>				
<b>Established</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Develop strategic partnerships</b>				

Establish connectivity and mobile registration hubs for the TV white space supported fisherfolk registration in the Danajon Reef.	O	C		
Implement mobile registration option for selected municipalities using the TV white space supported fisherfolk registration in the Danajon Reef.	O	O	O	C
Finalize agreement and design of the species-specific assessment and pilot of the SPR method towards the sustainable management of blue swimming crab in Danajon Reef.	C			
Conduct species-specific assessment and pilot SPR method in selected landing sites in Bohol.	O	O	O	O
Finalize agreement and design and conduct training on enhancing enforcement operations in Tawi-Tawi through improved reporting of fisheries and wildlife related violations via Infoboard.	C			
Implement Infoboard-supported enforcement reporting in Tawi-Tawi.		O	O	C
Conduct scoping, finalize design and agreement on establishing a standardized and streamlined vessel and gear registration system.	O	O	O	O
Implement and pilot standardized system in Surigao and nationwide.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping of other prospective PPPs with FirstGen, OceanCare Advocates, PBSP, Hikari, the Spark Project, Asian Institute of Management and others.	O	O	O	O
<b>Establish community partnerships</b>				
Conduct scoping activities on which communities can be tapped for potential PPPs.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping activities on potential private sector partners for PPPs in ECOFISH MKBAs.	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: : SSG Advisors Partnership Specialist, Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, SSG Key Partners: BFAR, private sector, LGUs				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 6 during the reporting period include:

- Rolled-out in April 2014, the “TVWS Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef” partnership with Department of Science and Technology’s Information and Communication Technology Office (DOST-ICTO) and Microsoft has resulted in the registration of over 3000 fisherfolk in the pilot sites, facilitated in part by the connectivity, tablets, and incentives introduced under the partnership.
- Ongoing implementation of the “Species Specific Assessment and Piloting of Spawning Potential Ratio Method for the Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef”. Data collection has resulted in 6 months worth of data which have been presented and analyzed with partners for potential interventions.
- Formalized a partnership between USAID and the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) for the development and implementation of a pilot PPP and EAFM training program for at least 20 local government champions for Year 3.

- Officially launched the “700DALOY (Dedicated Alert Lines for Ocean Biodiversity)” partnership between the Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, Smart and USAID. A central Information Management Center (IMC) has since been established in PNP-MG headquarters and over 100 phones have been distributed to pilot users in Tawi-Tawi and other selected offices. Monthly traffic of over 500 text messages has resulted in the successful filing of 2 cases against marine wildlife violators in Tawi-Tawi. Advanced training for the IMC and its enforcement partners are also regularly conducted together with a massive public information and education campaign.
- Fully executed the “Bancas for the Philippines: Calamianes” Partnership with WWF-USAID-Polymer Products Philippines for the provision of over 300 fiberglass bancas to Yolanda-hit areas in Calamianes and the training of boatmakers.
- Facilitated a training with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) to train selected stakeholders in Calamianes in mangrove reforestation and rehabilitation as a means for recovery from Supertyphoon Yolanda.
- Ongoing strategic discussions with Smart for the subsidized procurement of 1000 tablets and an assistive admeasurement mobile application in support of BFAR’s Boat and Gear Registration Program (BoatR).
- Commenced the “Technical Support for Enterprise Development” Partnership with the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) which has set up an “incubator” to provide targeted support and skills building to ECOFISH partners towards the development of social enterprises across the 8 MKBAs.
- Continuing discussions with various potential strategic partners towards assisting enterprise development across the 8 MKBAs, including the Batangas Coastal Resource Management Foundation and Artemis Salt Corporation in VIP for the bundling of closed season of 4 fish species with jobs generation for affected fisherfolk as well as provision of technical vocational skills for fisherfolk; the Zoological Society of London and INTERFACE for the upcycling of nets for high-end carpet tiles as an alternative livelihood in Danajon Reef, Surigao and Negros Oriental; the ABS-CBN Foundation for Calamianes eco-tourism and continued scoping and discussions with potential partners and investors for ECOFISH social enterprises.
- Conducted Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP) and networking with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and successfully secured funding for several business plans to support ECOFISH interventions in Calamianes and Negros Oriental.
- Conducted Organizational Diagnosis and Strengthening activities in Negros Oriental, Calamianes, Danajon Reef and Verde Island Passage in support of the GPBP and prospective development of social enterprises.
- Resources leveraged as of the end of Year 2 via PPPs total about USD2.8 million. Details are summarized in the table below:

## Resources Leveraged as of End of Year 2

Partnership	Partner	Value (PhP)	Value (USD)
1. TVWS Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef	DOST-ICT Office	25 M	581,395
	BFAR	70 M	1,627,907
	Bohol Province	0.1 M	2,326
	Microsoft Philippines	2.5 M	58,140
2. Species Specific Assessment and Spawning Potential Ratio of Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef	Philippine Assoc. of Crab Processors Inc. (PACPI)	1.5 M	34,884
3. 700DALOY	Smart Communications	2.69 M	62,558
	PNP-Maritime Group	2.4 M	55,814
4. PPP Training	DAP	2 M	46,512
5. Bancas for Calamianes (fiber glass boats)	WWF	6.5 M	151,163
	Polymer Products Philippines Inc. (PPPI)	0.3 M	6,977
6. Enterprise Development Support	AIM	8.9 M	206,977
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>121.89 M</b>	<b>2,834,651</b>

## 4.7. Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs

By design, baseline assessments and subsequent monitoring events of the Project will be conducted in Years 1, 3, and 5. In Year 2, results of these assessments were communicated with partners, particularly at the local level. Fisheries, socioeconomic, MPA, enforcement and governance baseline information were also used to update the fisheries profiles of each MKBA and used to identify species- or gear-specific management interventions, or at least provide some lead to determining fisheries management interventions.

The socioeconomic baseline assessment results were shared with 7 MKBAs, with Tawi-Tawi scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October 2014. Results were communicated to local partners, and insights from the baselines fed into the initial process of EAFM planning at the inter-LGU level. Numerous LGU partners asked to be provided copies of the reports, with the intention of integrating the results into their respective FRM/CRM plans and profiles. Baseline data is likewise being used in designing the enterprise development work in the MKBAs, which will be rolled out in Year 3.



02-04 July 2014, Surigao City. BFAR Caraga assistant regional director Judith Roxas addresses participants during the Baseline Assessment Result Feedbacking and EAFM Planning Workshop. Six (6) Surigao del Norte municipalities as well as the DENR, PNP-Maritime Group, the Surigao del Norte provincial environment and management office and provincial agriculture office participated in the workshop. (Inset) ECOFISH deputy chief of party Nygiel Armada (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) discuss relevant EAFM issues with Surigao site coordinator Nestor Escara (right most) and James Kho (3<sup>rd</sup> from right).

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 7.

<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Conduct fisheries baseline assessment and monitoring</b>				
Presentation of fisheries baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs.	O	O	O	C
Integration of fisheries baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
Use of fisheries baseline assessment information for species and gear specific management interventions.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct MPA baseline assessment and monitoring (as part of MPA establishment)</b>				
Presentation of MPA baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs.	O	O	O	C
Integration of MPA baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct socioeconomic baseline assessment and monitoring</b>				
Presentation of socioeconomic baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs.	O	O	O	C
Integration of socioeconomic baseline information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
Use baseline results as inputs to socioeconomic project interventions as reflected in other deliverables.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct enforcement baseline assessment and monitoring</b>				
Presentation of enforcement baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs.	O	O	O	C

Integration of enforcement baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Conduct EAFM governance baseline assessment and monitoring using benchmarking system in MKBA focal area LGUs</b>				
Presentation of EAFM governance baseline assessment results in respective MKBAs.	O	O	O	C
Integration of EAFM governance baseline assessment information into the fisheries profile of each MKBA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, Senior Governance and Institutional Development Specialist.</b> <b>Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, MKBA LGUs</b>				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 7 during the reporting period include:

- Baseline data from 14,874 catch landings, 24 marine protected areas, and 4,727 households interviewed from the 8 MKBA were entered into the database and were used to estimate various parameters, profiles, and comparative figures.
- Summary tables and figures per MKBA were prepared and, together with enforcement and governance parameters, are now being reported back to the LGUs and other partners for use in formulating their fisheries resource management plans.
- Aside from serving as baseline, the fisheries, MPA, socioeconomic, enforcement and EAFM benchmarking data will also be used as inputs to other project activities and interventions in the various MKBAs.
- Baseline assessment results also provide guidance for the prioritization and delivery of the training and capacity building activities in each MKBA.

#### **4.8. Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species**

In Year 1, ECOFISH has already collected information on commonly caught species in the 8 MKBAs, first, to guide the enumerators in the fish catch monitoring for the baseline assessment and, second, to compile biological parameters as inputs to the process of establishing the trophic system as initial step in the right-sizing of fishing effort.

In Year 2, the constructed models were continuously updated using the results of the baseline assessments in the 8 MKBAs. Two working trophic models (Ecopath) for the (1) Danajon Bank and (2) Calamianes Group of Islands focal areas were completed using updated fisheries and reef biomass inputs from the 2013 baseline assessments. With these models, preliminary site-specific simulations of fishing effort management scenarios were conducted. These include:

- Removal of illegal fishing operations;
- Removal of illegal fisheries + reallocation of displaced fishers (direct fisheries employment losses) to the remaining legal fishing activities; and



- “Ideal” fishing effort distribution among the various fisheries activities that will result in an improved ecosystem (trophic) structure + rebuilding of predator group biomasses

These scenarios will be used as starting point for stakeholder negotiations in the right-sizing of fishing effort (by 2015, Q2-Q4). A simple Excel spreadsheet was likewise constructed for immediate conversion of simulated fishing effort and catch results into the equivalent number of fishing units by gear type. Additionally, further refinements to the base models will be made upon incorporation of detailed (i.e. by gear type, site-specific) fisheries costs and profit estimates to allow simulation of alternative scenarios that either maximize jobs (total number of fishers) or direct profits from all fisheries activities. Models to be constructed next: Tawi-Tawi and Surigao del Norte focal areas (target completion: 2015, Q2).

In partnership with the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) and the National Fisheries Institute (NFI) the ECOFISH team started the implementation of the “Species Specific Assessment and Piloting of Spawning Potential Ratio Method for the Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef”. The data collection is intended to provide estimates the spawning potential ratio of the blue crab that can ultimately be used as tool or reference point for managing the resource.

Also in Year 2, fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results will be used to identify species- or gear-specific management interventions, or at least provide some lead to determining the appropriate interventions. This will continue until completion in Year 3. The Project has accomplished the collection and analysis of data in support for the proposed seasonal closure of small pelagics in Balayan Bay. This has been used to consult with stakeholders and evaluation of effective strategy to implement the seasonal closure.

Also in Year 2, the assessment and evaluation of candidate mariculture species (with preference towards lower trophic level species) and the mitigation measures for mariculture activities have commenced. However, these activities will be fully completed in Year 3.

CBA studies did not commence in Year 2, as it was decided that the activity will be conducted during the last year of the Project. Data collection will commence in Year 3. For the VIP CBA study, this was not undertaken due to the decision of the prospective partner (FirstGen) to back out of the activity. However, recreational values for Siargao in Surigao del Norte MKBA and in Mabini, Batangas in the VIP MKBA were estimated through the conduct of user fee studies under Deliverable 12.





On 03 September 2014, USAID/Philippines assisted the provincial government of Batangas and five municipalities in finalizing their proposal to declare a one month closed season for round scads and purse-eyed scads in Balayan Bay starting 01 December 2014. The closure will ban the use of ring nets and purse seines responsible for more than 50% of the landed catch of scads from Balayan Bay. The Department of Social Welfare and Development will enroll the 3,000 displaced fish workers in its Cash-for-Work program. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources will ensure that fishers are listed in its fisherfolk registration database and the Philippine National Police as well as the local network of *Bantay Dagat* (Sea Wardens) will oversee the enforcement of the closed season.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 8.

<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Determine and establish trophic interactions and appropriate fishing effort configuration using Ecopath model</b>				
Develop and refine trophic models for MKBAs covering former FISH project areas.	O	C		
Develop various choice scenarios on effort configuration in former FISH project sites.	O	O	O	O
Consultation with stakeholders on establishing appropriate fishing effort in former FISH project sites.		O	O	O
<b>Identify species-specific or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessment (in new MKBA focal areas)</b>				
Provide a short list of species or gear specific interventions for each MKBA.	O	C		
Consult with stakeholders to determine the priority species or gear interventions.	O	O	O	O
Draft policy instrument to manage priority species or gears.			O	O
<b>Assess and evaluate the viability of mariculture species (with preference towards lower trophic level species)</b>				
Review and revisit the priority mariculture species for the former FISH Project sites.	O	C		

Assess and evaluate the viability of mariculture species in the rest of the other MKBA.			O	O
<b>Establish mitigation measures for mariculture activities</b>				
Review and revisit the mitigation measures for mariculture activities in former FISH Project sites.	O	C		
Establish mitigation measure for mariculture activities in the rest of the other MKBA.			O	O
<b>Determine economic values and perform cost-benefit analysis in MKBA focal area LGUs (same as in Deliverable 12)</b>				
Perform CBA in VIP comparing costs of enforcement with tourism benefits.	O	C		
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU.	O	O	O	O
Perform CBA in 2 other MKBAs.		O	O	O
<b>Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF, Senior Resource Economics Specialist</b> <b>Key Partners: BFAR, SEAFDEC, University network (SAF may be used to support these institutions)</b>				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 8 during the reporting period include:

- The focal areas have come up with an initial short list of species or gears that are candidates for specific management interventions. These will be the subject of consultations with local government partners and stakeholders during the various trainings and workshops of the Project.
- Species or fish commodities that will be the focus of Value Chain Analysis in each MKBA have been identified and the conduct of the VCA will commence in November 2014.
- Construction of trophic models for the former FISH project areas covered under ECOFISH has been completed but will be further refined using the information gathered during the recent baseline assessment activities. Two working trophic models (Danajon Reef and Calamianes Island Group) were completed.
- Review of the priority mariculture species and the mitigation measures for the mariculture activities in the former FISH Project sites have been completed.
- Sexual maturity stages study for the Verde Island Passage conducted and completed. This will serve as basis for the proposed seasonal closure for small pelagics in the VIP.
- Initial evaluation for the proposed seasonal closure for sardines in the Ticao Pass and San Bernardino Strait was conducted.

#### 4.9. Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs

MPA network analyses involve the construction of a connectivity matrix using results from hydrodynamic study and dispersal models and will be used to identify potential sources and sinks of larvae. Dispersal models for Calamianes Island Group, Danajon Reef, Surigao and Tawi-

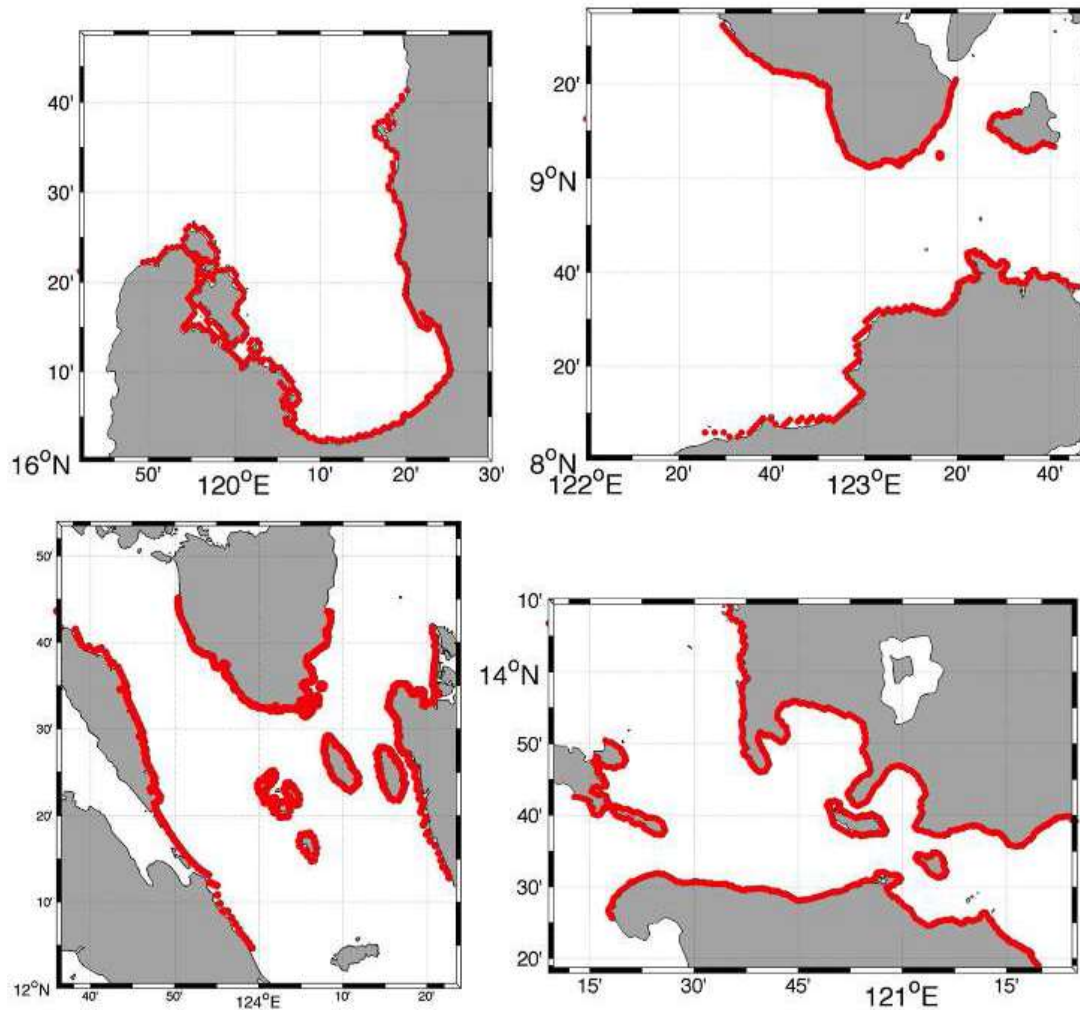
Tawi systems have already been previously developed and will be utilized for MPA network analysis and establishment or strengthening the network of MPAs. In Year 2, ECOFISH, through MERF, has completed the development of the dispersal models for the rest of the other MKBAs, namely, Lingayen Gulf, Verde Island Passage, San Bernardino Strait – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, and South Negros. These models will be used to guide the project staff and partners develop their MKBA-specific MPA network designs.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 9.

<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Conduct hydrodynamic study and dispersal modeling</b>				
Develop hydrodynamic study and dispersal models for area selected for establishment of network of MPAs.	O	O	O	C
<b>Develop MPA network design (includes climate change adaptation strategies)</b>				
Draft MPA network design.	O	O	O	O
Consult with partners until finalization of the MPA network design.		O	O	O
<b>Establish MPA network in new MKBAs</b>				
Conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network.	O	O	O	O
Develop plan to implement component MPAs including tasking and financing.	O	O	O	O
<b>Strengthen MPA networks in existing MKBA focal areas</b>				
Evaluate existing MPA networks and determine activities to restore or strengthen the networks.	O	C		
Develop customized capacity building program for MPA networks to promote compliance and enforce regulations.		O	O	O
<b>Team Lead: Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist, MERF</b>				
<b>Key Partners: BFAR, University network (SAF may be used to support local colleges)</b>				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 9 during the reporting period include:

- The development of the hydrodynamic models for the new sites (Lingayen Gulf, Verde Island Passage, San Bernardino Strait – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, and South Negros MKBAs) has been completed.
- Field surveys to measure horizontal flow of water current and vertical profiles (surface to 100m) for the new sites/MKBAs have been completed.
- Revisited, assessed, provided technical assistance and strengthened the management councils of existing networks of MPAs in the Calamianes Island Group and the Verde Island Passage MKBAs.



Map showing model domain of dispersal models for Lingayen Gulf (top left), South Negros (top right), San Bernardino (Bottom left) and Verde Island Passage (bottom right). (Villanoy et al. 2014)

#### 4.10. Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs

Year 1, ECOFISH revisited the implementation of the integrated management plans of former FISH Project sites and consulted with partners and LGUs regarding initiatives to revive or strengthen the initiatives. In Year 2, ECOFISH started to focus its efforts to restore key elements of inter-LGU arrangements in the former FISH Project focal areas and initiated the establishment of inter-LGU alliances in the rest of the other focal areas. The key interventions are the establishment or strengthening of individual LGU's fishery law enforcement team and the building or strengthening of inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities. Other project interventions started by the Project in Year 2 are the development of marine spatial zoning plan, and rolled out registration and licensing to manage fishing effort.



LGU Bulan (Sorsogon) Councilor Recto Valeriano (wearing blue shirt) and a representative of the Integrated Rural Development Foundation (IRDF) share learnings and experiences in organizing in coastal communities. This was after the presentation of fisheries and bio-physical baseline assessment results by Dr. Samuel Mamauag of UP-MERF. The Ticao Pass- Lagonoy-San Bernardino MKBA feedbacking was held on 09 June 2014 at the Fernando's Hotel in Sorsogon City, Sorsogon.

During the feedbacking of baseline assessment results, the ECOFISH team also initiated the inter-LGU EAFM framework planning. With the baseline assessment result as the background, the team facilitated the identification of inter-LGU fisheries management initiatives and individual LGU-specific coastal resources management initiatives. These form the backbone of the development of the EAFM framework plan.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 10.

<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Conduct integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for cluster of municipalities or LGU alliances</b>				
Conduct activities to revive or strengthen inter-LGU CFRM initiatives in former FISH project sites.	O	O	O	O
Initiate inter-LGU planning process in new MKBAs.				O
<b>Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (new sites)</b>				
Conduct an inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas of the MKBAs.	O	C		



Conduct courses on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in establishing enforcement teams.	O	O	O	O
<b>Provide technical support to strengthen coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (former FISH sites)</b>				
Conduct an inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas of the MKBAs.	O	C		
Conduct refresher courses on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in strengthening enforcement teams.	O	O	O	O
<b>Build/strengthen inter-LGU regulatory compliance and enforcement capabilities</b>				
Establish or strengthen inter-LGU enforcement arrangements.	O	O	O	O
Conduct joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs.	O	O	O	O
<b>Develop marine spatial zoning plan</b>				
Revisit and review the fisheries use zoning plans of clusters of LGUs in former FISH Project sites.	O	C		
Assist the cluster of LGUs in reviving or strengthening the zoning plans.	O	O	O	O
Initiate marine spatial zoning activities in the rest of the focal areas of the MKBAs.		O	O	O
Assist cluster of LGUs in developing the marine spatial zoning plan.			O	O
<b>Establish appropriate fishing effort configuration for focal areas in the MKBAs</b>				
Consultation with focal area LGUs on the appropriate fishing effort configuration.		O	O	O
Team Lead: DCOP for Operation, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Specialist, Regulation and Enforcement Specialist				
Key Partners: BFAR regional and provincial offices, provincial governments and PNP				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 10 during the reporting period include:

- Completed the inventory of enforcement capacities and response capabilities of LGUs in the focal areas for all MKBAs.
- Conducted refresher courses as well as orientation trainings on fishery law enforcement as intermediate step in strengthening enforcement teams in 4 MKBAs. The rest of the enforcement trainings will be completed within Year 3.
- Conducted joint operations planning for cluster or alliance of LGUs in 4 MKBAs.
- Established or strengthened inter-LGU enforcement arrangements by defining roles of various players and clearly defining the rules of engagement.
- Revisited and reviewed the fisheries use zoning plans of clusters of LGUs in former FISH Project sites.
- Conducted workshop and validation to incorporate revisions in the fisheries use zoning plan of the Calamianes Island Group.
- ECOFISH completed the Integrated Fisheries Resources Management Plans for the LGU alliance of South Negros and the focal area municipalities in Surigao del Norte. For the South Negros, the alliances on the Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental sides will

oversee the implementation, while in Surigao del Norte the province will take the lead in the integrated implementation of management interventions.

#### **4.11. Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs**

The following activities were indicated as ‘continuing’ by the end of Year 1 and for implementation during Year 2:

- Develop a set of next step activities to respond to the findings of the review and assessment in former FISH project sites;
- Pilot test the assessment tool in select LGUs;
- Develop strategy to enhance registration system either through amendment to ordinance or manner of enforcing registration ordinance;
- Develop proto-types of model registration and licensing ordinance to cater to different scenarios/conditions;
- Develop fields for a national database on registration out of FGD or key informants;
- Develop training module on registration and licensing; and
- Develop criteria in prioritizing LGUs requiring training.

The activities identified in the work plan have been reconfigured in light of the action of BFAR to take the lead in facilitating the registration of fisherfolk, boats and gears, and providing technical assistance and incentives to LGUs. ECOFISH assisted BFAR in developing the concept and implementation mechanisms for the registration of fisherfolk (FishR) in Year 1, and registration of boats and gears (initiated in Year 2, and for implementation in Year 3). The technical assistance for registration of boats and gears was also delayed because of the lingering issue of jurisdiction for registration of boats that are less than 3GT between MARINA and the LGUs.

ECOFISH provided support for implementation of FishR in the project MKBAs. This included regular monitoring of the progress of partner LGUs in registering fisherfolk in their area; sending feedback to BFAR in case of problems; finding means of improving registration efficiency

through the use of modern technology (e.g. TVWS and tablets in Bohol, offline data encoding system for areas without or with poor internet connection).



Logo of the FishR program of BFAR supported by ECOFISH.

With the success of FishR, ECOFISH worked with BFAR to develop a complementary registration system for boats and gears, also known as BoatR. In anticipation of the BoatR, ECOFISH advised partner LGUs in the project sites to refrain from developing an independent system of boat and gear registration. With BFAR taking the lead in BoatR, the pending issue on jurisdiction between MARINA and LGUs will hopefully be

resolved, with BFAR taking the cudgels for the LGUs. Registration and licensing provisions have been incorporated in ordinances proposed for Tubigon, Bohol and Mabini, Batangas. Many other LGUs in the former FISH project sites also have ordinances on fisher and fishing boat registration and several LGUs in the ECOFISH sites already have provisions on registration and licensing in their existing ordinances.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 11.

<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Fishing Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance</b>				
Conduct training on admeasurement, fishing boat registration and licensing of fishing gears for at least 30 LGUs in the 8 MKBAs.	O	O	O	O
Assist at least 30 LGUs in the 8 MKBAs in drafting of ordinance on fishing boat registration and licensing of fishing gears.	O	O	O	O
<b>Registration systems component of national database developed and deployed to LGUs</b>				
Develop data acquisition and retrieval for the registration systems (focus only on fishing boats and gears) compatible with FishR.	O	O	O	O
<b>Training on use of registration system in each MKBA for management</b>				
Conduct training of at least 10 LGUs on the use of registration system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Team Lead: Regulatory and Enforcement Specialist, Senior Fisheries and Coastal Resource Management Specialist.</b>				



Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 11 during the reporting period include:

- ECOFISH conducted an informal (anecdotal) review of implementation of registration and licensing in partner LGUs in the hope of designing measures to increase compliance and efficiency.
- ECOFISH made a breakthrough when it linked BFAR to DBM and NSO to share similar efforts in registering fishers. After several meetings, BFAR decided that the existing fisherfolk registration system should utilize the data already gathered under the RSBSA. ECOFISH provided assistance in developing the details of implementation to enhance the existing BFAR registration system with the RSBSA data. The result is the National Program for Municipal Fisherfolk Registration (FishR).
- In Year 2, the registration efforts were focused on getting LGUs to complete the municipal fisherfolk registration. There was no need to conduct trainings in the project sites because BFAR is conducting the trainings for all LGUs. ECOFISH site coordinators encouraged partner LGUs to participate in BFAR's training and will help monitor progress in implementation of FishR.
- The Project also assisted BFAR's Public Information Group in the conceptualization and design of FishR information materials. The Project hosted the national launch of FishR in Manila that had the DA Secretary, NAPC Secretary and US Mission Director in attendance.
- The Project also supported the development and production of a short video on the FishR registration process as well as the production of a FishR jingle.

#### **4.12. Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs**

As mentioned in Deliverable 8, CBA studies did not commence in Year 2, as it was decided that the activity will be conducted during the last year of the project. Data collection will commence in Year 3. For the VIP CBA study, this was not undertaken due to the decision of the prospective partner (FirstGen) to back out of the activity.

User/entrance fee scheme studies have been completed for Siargao (Surigao del Norte) and Mabini, Batangas (VIP MKBA). User fees are scheduled to be established for the other MKBAs in Year 3. Site-based staff are currently assisting the Senior Resource Economics Specialist in identifying specific schemes that are emerging to be priorities while the EAFM planning process is being undertaken. For instance, users of Sipalay MPAs will be surveyed to determine the feasibility of establishing entrance fees for tourists. In Calamianes, appropriate fees for water zones being utilized for pearl farming will be estimated. Finally, the feasibility of replicating successful auxiliary invoice tax schemes will be studied for project sites that are not yet

implementing such tax schemes, in order to allow LGUs to earn revenues from increases in fish catch that will hopefully result from the other project interventions.



ECOFISH Senior Resource Economist Rina Maria Rosales makes a presentation of the Willingness to Pay (WTP) study results before various stakeholders in General Luna located in Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte on 14 August 2014.

In CIG, several fisherfolk POs were provided with orientation workshops and assistance in proposal writing for rehabilitating their MPA, sea cucumber harvesting, mud crab fattening, and bamboo handicrafts. In Southern Negros, fisherfolk POs were assisted through orientation workshops and identification of potential projects for GPBP funding. In Bohol, orientation trainings were conducted for 3 POs in 3 municipalities. Finally, in VIP, 4 municipalities were assisted in project identification and proposal formulation. Business plans for those that are successfully funded will be drafted through the project's assistance under the enterprise development component in Deliverable 13.

MKBA	Municipality	Civil Society Organization	GPBP Project	ECOFISH Intervention
Southern Negros	Siaton	Siit Bay Fishermen Association	Seaweeds	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation and Organizational Diagnosis
		Palayuhan, Palinpinon, Siit Multi-Purpose Cooperative	Mud Crab Fattening	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation and Organizational Diagnosis
	Sta. Catalina	Caranoche Mangrove Community Association	Mangrove Eco-Tour	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation and Organizational Diagnosis
Bohol	Clarin	LGU of Clarin	Clarin Marinated Bangus	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation and Organizational Diagnosis
CIG	Busuanga	Concepcion Fisherfolk Association	Sea Cucumber	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation and Organizational Diagnosis

	Busuanga	Busuanga Federation of Farmers and Fisherfolk	Busuanga River Cruise	Formulation of Business Plan and GPBP orientation
	Culion	Baldat Farmers and Fisherfolk	Mud Crab Fattening	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis, VMG Formulation and Stat. Planning
		Culion Parent Leaders Association	Pandan and Bamboo Handicrafts	Formulation of Business Plan, GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis, VMG Formulation and Stat. Planning
VIP	Calatagan	Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Mangingisda sa Brgy. Talisay	Mangrove Reforestation	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Poblacion 4 Sitio Payapay Womens Organization	Fish Processing ( Bagoong )	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Samahang Kapit Bisig ng Barangay Sta Ana	Fish Processing (Tinapa)	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Samahan ng Maliliit na Magtitinda ng Isda ng Brgy Hukay	Fish Processing ( Bagoong and Smoke Fish)	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Samahan ng Mangingisda ng Brgy. Uno	Fish Processing (Dried Danggit)	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Samahan ng Mangingisda at Magbibiklad	Fish Processing	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Samahan ng Maliliit na Mangingisda sa Encarnacion	Fish Processing	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation
		Encarnacion Women's Club	Tomato Processing	GPBP orientation, Organizational Diagnosis and Value Formation

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 12.

Deliverable 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs					
Project Intervention/Activity		2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Cost-benefit analysis of LGU operations involved in fisheries management					
Perform CBA in VIP comparing costs of enforcement with tourism benefits.	POSTPONED				
Collect baseline information on CRM revenues and expenditures per LGU.	POSTPONED				
Institute market-based financing instruments					
Valuation studies of tourists' willingness to pay in Siargao.	O	O	C		
Valuation studies involving major stakeholders in Calamianes.			O	O	
Valuation studies involving major stakeholders in Southern Negros.	O	O	O	O	
Design user fee schemes and determine valuation studies necessary for other MKBAs.		O	O	O	
Facilitate larger access to national government budgets through BuB					
Coordinate with BuB process at the local level.	O	O	O	O	
Liaise with national government agencies involved in the BuB process.	O	O	O	O	
Link BuB proposals with IFRM business plans.	O	O	O	O	
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economist, REECS, and SSG					
Key Partners: BFAR, LMP, LPP, LGUs					

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 12 during the reporting period include:

- Willingness to Pay (WTP) study among tourists in Siargao was completed and presented to the various LGUs in Siargao, including the Provincial Tourism office. The study is aimed at establishing a user fee scheme for visitors entering Siargao for recreational purposes. The results were taken positively, and a technical working group has been set up for translating the results into tourist entrance fees that can be used to fund ecotourism-related programs in Siargao. Members of the TWG include all nine LGUs of Siargao, the Surigao del Norte provincial tourism office, and hopefully the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) of Siargao Protected Landscape and Seascape. The Project will continue to assist the TWG until an actual scheme has been set up and collections begin.
- In Mabini, Batangas, user fees were estimated, or updated in the case of scuba diving entrance fees, for the various users of marine resources: scuba divers, private ports, parking fees, research fees and resort development fees. The proposed fees were incorporated in the Mabini CRM Code which the Project helped draft and update (see Deliverable 1).
- In Coron, the Project is set to assist the CADT holders of Coron Island in enhancing their user fee collection and disbursement, primarily through the formulation of a business plan. A partnership between UNDP-SGP and the Tagbanua Tribes of Coron Island

Association (TTCIA) is being facilitated by the Project, particularly in funding the business planning process.

- The Project assisted several sites in linking the Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) process, now called the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Process (GPBP) with project objectives. Four MKBAs received assistance in accessing GPBP funds from the national government, namely: CIG, South Negros, Danajon Bank and VIP. Some of these have already been funded through the GPBP.



Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Processes (GPBP) orientation and updates on proposals submitted for CY 2014-2015 were conducted with ECOFISH community partners in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City, Negros Oriental on 12-14 March 2014. The community partners also identified enterprises/livelihood projects to be proposed for CY 2016.

#### **4.13. Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs**

The drafting of business plans is contingent on the formulation of IFRM plans, including the updating of VIP and CIG IFRM plans. Since the latter activity has not yet been undertaken, business plan formulation could not commence. IFRM plan formulation is now scheduled on the third year of project implementation. Business planning will be conducted back to back with the IFRM workshops.

Value chain studies are now set to be conducted during the first half of Year 3. The latter part of Year 2 was spent brainstorming on the design of the value chain studies, planning for the training workshop, recruiting enumerators and selecting the species to be studied for each MKBA. The training of enumerators was held on 20 September to 01 October 2014 in Mabini, Batangas. All sites were able to complete their workplans for the conduct of value chain studies, which will be undertaken for six months.

##### **Species Selected for Value Chain Study in each of the 8 MKBAs**

<b>MKBA</b>	<b>Species</b>
Calamianes Island Group	Sea cucumber
Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef	Blue swimmer crab
Lingayen Gulf	Siganids
Ticao-Lagonoy Gulf-San Bernardino Strait	<i>Lawlaw</i> sardines
Surigao	Mud crabs
Southern Negros	Yellow fin tuna
Tawi-Tawi	Blue swimmer crab

Planning and scoping for social enterprise development was conducted for 5 MKBAs: South Negros, CIG, VIP, Danajon Bank and Surigao del Norte. Potential fisherfolk PO beneficiaries have been identified for South Negros, VIP and Surigao del Norte. On the other hand, potential enterprises have been identified for South Negros, CIG, VIP and Surigao del Norte. Partner NGOs that will help implement on the ground activities for social preparation and product development have been identified for South Negros, VIP and Danajon Bank. Coordination with other USAID projects working in similar sites and overlapping with the enterprise development work has been initiated, particularly with COMPETE (for CIG and Danajon Bank) and CDI (for VIP). Finally, the partnership with the Asian Institute for Management (AIM) has been established, wherein their Social Incubation Lab will work hand in hand with the establishment of social enterprises in ECOFISH sites. AIM will provide human and technical resources for the various stages of establishing social enterprises, such as business planning, financial management training, product development, credit sourcing and even the identification of markets. Work on these 5 sites will continue until Year 3, along with scoping and planning for the 3 other MKBAs.

In CIG, fiberglass boat building activities were undertaken for the victims of Supertyphoon Yolanda. In partnership with WWF, the Project trained 15 local boat builders in the 4 municipalities of Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan to build 450 fiberglass boats. The training has now allowed the builders to form themselves into an enterprise of legitimate fiberglass boat builders that will now be able to service boat requirements in CIG. ECOFISH facilitated the formation of the enterprise, and will continue to assist the group until they can function as a sustainable social enterprise in the long run. In addition, the project facilitated a rehabilitation project in Culion's mangrove areas damaged by Supertyphoon Yolanda. The rehabilitation project is intended to pave the way for the establishment of a livelihood project primarily depending on mangroves. The DSWD's SLP program partnered with the Project in funding the mangrove rehabilitation project.

The establishment of Trust Funds is being undertaken in partnership with the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC). A concept note has been drafted, expounding on the objectives of establishing an LGU trust fund for regenerating coastal and marine resources primarily as a poverty alleviation tool. The concept has been presented to the officers of ULAP, the association of governors in the Philippines, along with some members of the League of Municipalities in the Philippines (LMP). It is now being refined before it is presented to BFAR and the DBM for possibly being funded under the 2016 budget.

MKBA Awards will be set up once MPAs and MPA networks have been established by the Project. Project interventions for MPAs are still being designed alongside the EAFM planning sessions in each MKBA. Finally, modified PES schemes will be established through the issuance of Development Impact Bonds. The initial concept note has been drafted, and is still being expanded and refined before it is presented to potential bond purchasers and LGU partners of the Project.

The box below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of various interventions and activities under Deliverable 13.

<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
<b>Project Intervention/Activity</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>Translate IFRM Plans into business plans</b>				
Review existing management plans for developing business plans.	O	O	O	O
Draft business plans for selected LGUs with existing management plans.	O	O	O	O
<b>Value chain analysis for local fisheries</b>				
Choose species for value chain studies.	O	O	O	C
Conduct value chain studies.	O	O	O	O
<b>Enterprise Development</b>				
Identify potential enterprises that can employ fisherfolk in MKBAs.	O	O	O	O
Link up with interested partners from the private sector and/or NGOs in setting up the enterprise and community organizing work.	O	O	O	O
Link up with DSWD-SLP for various stages in enterprise development.	O	O	O	O
<b>Development of Inter-LGU Trust Funds</b>				
Explore and coordinate with agencies on the establishment of resource management funds.	O	O	O	O
<b>Capitalization of Coastal Adaptation Funds</b>				
Set up incentive schemes through MKBA Awards.	O	O	O	O
<b>Establish PES Schemes</b>				
Conduct scoping to determine and establish areas and ecosystem services that can serve as pilot cases for the establishment of marine PES schemes.	O	O	O	O
Team Lead: Senior Resource Economics Specialist, REECS, SSG Key Partners: BFAR, LGUs, Private sector				

Highlights of key activities/accomplishments under Deliverable 13 during the reporting period include:

- A framework for establishing social enterprises is now being developed for each MKBA. At the end of this reporting period, there are 2 MKBAs that are ready with their strategies and partner NGOs, two more are in the planning stage, and 2 are still being assisted in identifying partner NGOs that can help the project implement proposals on the ground.
- Potential target fisheries for value chain analysis have been identified through the FGDs and key informant interviews done during the socioeconomic baseline surveys. The design of the value chain studies, planning for the training workshop, recruiting enumerators, selecting the species to be studied, and workplans for the conduct of value chain studies for each MKBA have been completed (and for implementation during the first half of Year 3).





Training on Value Chain Studies led by Dr. Robert Pomeroy and ECOFISH senior resource economist Rina Maria Rosales was held in Mabini, Batangas on 29 September to 01 October 2014. As an outcome of this activity, certain marine species will be subjected to value chain studies during the third year of project implementation. ECOFISH chief of party Gerry Silvestre also requested for a separate value chain study for one common species to be conducted across all 8 MKBAs. Participants will draft a separate workplan for this, and the Project will source funds for this additional activity. Participants drafted their workplans for the conduct of value chain studies. The actual studies will commence in November 2014 and will be completed by April 2015.

- Scoping activities are still ongoing on which areas and ecosystem services can serve as pilot cases for the establishment of marine PES schemes. In connection with this, a national PES scheme through the blue carbon initiative is being scoped by the project together with CI, B+WISER, Ateneo de Manila, and National University of Singapore.
- Together with WWF and UP-MSI, the project facilitated a workshop towards the development of a socio-economic assessment tool (SEAT) for MPA management that will accompany the existing MPA management effectiveness assessment tool (MEAT), which is being administered across the country every two years. SEAT intends to assess whether MPA management is achieving the socio-economic objectives it set forth when the MPA was established. It will further be used to expand the bi-annual National MPA Awards, as well as input into the planned MKBA Awards. The latter will serve as the platform towards the capitalization of coastal adaptation funds across the project sites.



## 5. Site-Level Year 2 Accomplishments

As mentioned earlier, the priority among the major thrusts of ECOFISH in Year 2 is putting in place interventions that will serve as building blocks for, as well as directly influence the, achievement of the final outcomes of the Project, namely: an average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass and a 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. This was intensively discussed during the July and December 2013 team planning exercises and the MKBA activities are expected to reflect this.

Two major natural disasters struck the Philippines in 2013. A magnitude 7.2 earthquake with its epicenter near the Danajon Bank MKBA struck the central Philippines on 15 October 2013 and Supertyphoon Haiyan/Yolanda hit Samar, Leyte, northern Cebu and the Calamianes Islands on 08 November 2013. While ECOFISH had to put on hold a number of planned activities (specifically in the Danajon Bank and Calamianes Island Group), it also had to respond to the immediate relief and rehabilitation efforts in response to the twin disasters. In particular, the Public Forum on Disasters, Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity enlightened the Boholanos and demystified various phenomena in relation to earthquakes and storm surges. With the gained knowledge and information, the LGUs and other constituents are now better guided in their rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. The speakers from PHIVOLCS, UPMSI and Project NOAH have successfully provided the forum accurate and timely information.

### 5.1. Calamianes Island Group MKBA

The Year 2 work plan activities continued interventions initiated in Year 1, but with focus on activities that are expected to contribute towards 10% increase in fish biomass and 10% increase in employment. These included strengthening the individual MPAs and MPA networks (with emphasis on implementing the strategies identified during the MPA network forum and re-organization of individual MPA management councils), capacity building of local partners on coastal and fisheries law enforcement, MPA assessment and management, preparation of marine use plan, and formulation of business plans. Activities initiated in Year 2 included registration and licensing of fisherfolks and fishing boats and gears, feedback of baseline assessment results to finalize immediate fisheries management actions, economic enterprise development, policy review at the municipal level, and development of constituency-building strategies.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Calamianes Island Group MKBA under the various deliverables.

Calamianes Island Group MKBA				
Site Activities/Interventions	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
General Activities				

Courtesy meeting with Provincial Governor of Palawan.	C			
Consultation with BFAR MIMAROPA regarding the Year 2 Work Plan.	C			
Consultations with LGUs of Linapacan, Culion, Busuanga, Coron on Y2 Workplan.	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Provide data for case study.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</b>				
Assist in the conduct of workshops and review sessions with partners to develop State of the Marine Resources Report.	O	O	C	
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Training on Baseline Assessment Results, constituency-building and conflict management.	O	C		
Conduct Fish Examiner's Training.	O	O	O	O
Orientation on Climate Change Impacts.	O	O	O	O
Conduct EO 305 orientation, local legislation and administrative adjudication system.	C			
Coastal law enforcement training.	O	C		
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Conduct Community Partnership training/enumerators orientation on business planning workshop.	C			
Community partnership monitoring and mentoring.	O	C		
PPP Impact Assessment.				
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments of the 8 MKBAs</b>				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results	O	C		
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Review/amendment of fishery ordinance.	O	O	O	O
Identify species-specific or fishing gear interventions based on results of baseline assessment.	O	O	C	
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Organize training on MPA Baseline Assessment and Actual Assessment for non-priority MPAs.		O	C	
Provide technical assistance during MPA Network meeting.	O	C		
Facilitate various meetings with MPA management councils - updating of MPA management plan - re-organization of MPA management council	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances</b>				
Validation of Zones and mapping of expansion areas.	O	C		
Training for LGUs on catch monitoring.	O	O	O	O
Completion of data gathering for MKBA profile.		C		
Conduct training-writeshop on Formulation of Marine Spatial Plan document.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				

Assist in the organization of the enforcement team of each municipality.	O	C		
Strengthen/re-organize the BFARMC/MFARMC.	O	C		
Conduct EO 305 training and facilitate the Implementation of BoatR/FishR.	O	O	C	
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Social preparation for enterprise development - meeting with HIKARI - identify, organize/strengthen PO	O	O	C	
<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Provide technical and administrative assistance in the conduct of economic value chain studies on siganids (Coron), and crab (Busuanga/Culion) and the live fish trade.	O	O	O	O
Organize business planning workshop focusing on the translation of Calamianes Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (CIFMP) into business plans.	O	O	O	O
Participate in the Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP) workshop.	O	C		

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- A meeting with Palawan Governor Jose Alvarez on 08 October 2013 led to the immediate approval of the ECOFISH Project SEP clearance. The SEP clearance was approved and signed on 30 October 2013 during the PCSD regular monthly meeting.
- Sharing of ECOFISH baseline assessment results was organized in a public forum on 10 March 2014 in Coron, Palawan. This was participated in by the four (4) Calamianes Island Group LGUs, national government agencies and NGOs. The event catalyzed discussions on fisheries issues and a range of management interventions/measures as appropriate to local contexts and conditions.
- The Project organized and facilitated the Coastal and Fishery Law Enforcement Appreciation Course for Municipal Enforcement Units of the Calamianes Group of Islands on 11-13 March 2014. Sixty-five (65) participants from 4 municipalities in the CIG, national enforcement teams and technical support agencies attended the training course.
- A de-briefing meeting was conducted on 28 February 2014 with SSupt Jonathan Ablang, Chief of staff of PNP-MG, and members of the MARPSTA Calamianes. SSupt Ablang brought up the need to come up with a manual of best practices in launching and implementing AMPA. The experiences in the Calamianes would serve as a good case to promote replication in other Maritime Police Stations across the country.

- Provided continued technical assistance in Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga in the formal organization of their CLET. Executive Orders creating the Municipal Wardens have been approved by the local chief executives in the four municipalities of Calamianes. Several meetings with Local Police Chiefs were also conducted to discuss the Leahy Vetting and documentation process. An initial discussion with the enforcement team leader of Bantay Coron was held on 23 October 2013 to provide project brief and enforcement initiatives that have been conducted in Year 1.



Participants of the enforcement training together with ECOFISH team and resource persons (left). Participants practicing their newly acquired basic navigation skills (right).

- ECOFISH provided continued business plan mentoring assistance to community partners in the municipalities of Busuanga and Culion. One of the actions taken was the refinement of business plans and identification of next steps. They decided to meet after a month to present the samples, try to market it to existing shops in Coron and Busuanga, and to evaluate the best designs and quantity for possible regular production.
- A series of meetings with Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils (MDRRMC) in the three municipalities of Calamianes (Coron, Culion and Busuanga) were conducted on 08-10 December 2013. These municipalities were badly hit by Supertyphoon Yolanda last November 2013. The meetings provided updates on damages and needs of affected barangays. One of the identified needs is the provision of boat assistance to the fishers. Since FishR has not yet started as orientations were completed only in September 2013, the LGUs wanted to tie this up with boat assistance, so registration can be conducted simultaneously with the distribution of boats. Initial scoping for enterprise development proposals in Calamianes was also undertaken during these meetings. Potential partners in the implementation of enterprise development were likewise identified.



A week after supertyphoon Haiyan/Yolanda struck the Visayas and northern Palawan, ECOFISH Calamianes MKBA team led by Vivien Facunla, reported hundreds of damaged boats and fishing gears in Coron.

- Assisted the BFAR Regional Director of Region 4B when he visited the typhoon-affected fishing community in Culion in November 2013. ECOFISH was also instrumental in identifying the beneficiaries of AHON project of the BFAR in the Calamianes Island Group by providing the list of fisherfolk with damaged boats. ECOFISH also supported the launching and turnover ceremony of the project.
- The partnership between World Wide Fund for Nature Philippines (WWF-Philippines), Polymer Products (Philippines) Inc. and the ECOFISH Project aimed to support the implementation of the Bancas for the Philippines project for the Calamianes Group of Islands as a means for livelihood recovery of local fisherfolk affected by Supertyphoon Yolanda. The partnership mobilized and trained local boat builders within Coron, Busuanga, Culion and Linapacan. A total of 24 boat builders underwent training courses on fiberglass boat building and 18 were trained on fiberglass mould-making. The first round of training on boat making was conducted on 01-05 April 2014 when fourteen (14) boat builders were trained, and because of the success of the latter and to address the needs of building more boats for the affected fisherfolk, it was decided to conduct another round of training on 01-05 June 2014 when ten (10) boat builders were trained.
- After three months, it was followed by training course on fiberglass mould-making. Trainees were taught how to make moulds for fiberglass boats and other fiberglass products, e.g. roofing materials and boat engine housing. Each boat builder was provided with a banca mold and a minimum of 20 kits and tools for building 20 boats. Meetings were held in Culion, Busuanga and Coron with roughly 400 beneficiaries of

the boat assistance activity. The Project distributed nearly 500 fiberglass boats and cash for work for boat builders amounting to PhP 384,800.00.

- Boat builders were organized by ECOFISH into an association with a set of officers to be registered under DOLE. Polymer Plastics, the largest manufacturer and supplier of resin for fiberglass products, has decided to open up a branch in Coron. The fiberglass boat builders are thus ensured of their supply of raw materials and can now plan on taking their enterprise forward.
- Courtesy meeting and consultations on the Project Year 2 Workplan were conducted with SB members and local chief executives of Coron, Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga. The SB members of Culion and Busuanga showed willingness to make a resolution for the Chief Executive to enter into an MOU with ECOFISH if the latter would find it necessary to enhance the partnership between the two parties.
- ECOFISH in collaboration with Calamianes MPA network (CMN) organized a CMN Seminar workshop: “Scaling-up of MPA network in CIG” on 27-28 February 2014. The seminar-workshop enabled MPA managers to give updates on the status of their respective MPAs and election of the new set of officers of CMN. The network also invited and recognized the Tagbanua Tribe of Coron Island Association (TTCIA), currently managing the network of small MPAs in the island under Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT), as honorary members of the organization. The Chief of Staff of PNP-MG provided a status update on PNP-MG’s performance and the objectives of the AMPA project. The network welcomed the assistance of PNP-MG in improving the effectiveness of Calamianes MPAs. SB representatives who attended the CMN seminar-workshop agreed to sponsor resolutions for their respective Mayors to sign MOUs with the PNP-MG for implementation of the AMPA.
- The launching of the AMPA program in two MPA sites, namely, the Balisungan MPA in Coron on 28 February 2014, followed on 01 March by the AMPA launch in Kayangan Lake in Coron Island. This time, an MOU between the TTCIA and PNP-MG Calamianes was formally signed in front of the Council of Elders of TTCIA and of the PNP-MG leadership through SSupt Jonathan Ablang. TTCIA warmly welcomed the PNP-MG in their CADT, and were very hopeful that the AMPA project will greatly help them in successfully implementing their Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP).
- Facilitated the first organizational meeting of the new set of officers of the Calamianes MPA Network (CMN) on 28 February 2014. The officers agreed to prioritize the review of CMN by-laws and plan. The group scheduled an MPA visit to every municipality to personally observe the status of each MPA and strategize on how the network can help them to effectively manage their respective MPAs.
- As part of its technical assistance to LGUs of Calamianes, the Project assisted a series of validation activities on water use zones and mapping of expansion areas on 04-10 February 2014. Additional uses identified were: proposed MPA, tourism area, mariculture and navigational lane. Validated map will be processed for inclusion in the Comprehensive Land and Water Use Plan (CLWUP) of the municipalities. The water use/zone plan will be formulated through Marine Spatial Planning Writeshop which will be conducted in October 2014.

- ECOFISH supported the Provincial Agriculture coordinator and local government units of Coron and Culion in the orientation on FAO 196 and the re-organization of MFARMC in the said municipalities last 30 October 2013.
- Training on Municipal Fisheries Registration and Licensing was conducted on 25-28 March 2014 attended by 27 participants. The activity was fully supported by the DA-BFAR personnel both from the Region 4B and Central office in collaboration with Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA). At the end of the training, ECOFISH turned over two (2) netbooks per LGU to aid them in the registration of fisherfolk and licensing of fishing gears and fishing vessels and other related coastal and fisheries management activities.
- A series of meetings with Executive Director of Calamianes Conservation and Cultural Networks Inc. (CCCNI) were conducted for a potential tie-up in setting up a community-based social enterprise in Bgy. Lajala, Coron. ABS-CBN Foundation is willing to fund the whole undertaking. CCCNI can take care of product development while ECOFISH assists in social preparation and in MPA establishment.
- ECOFISH site staff attended meetings on 11-12 December 2014 and 24 January 2014 as official member of the Local Poverty Reduction Action Teams (LPRAT) in the two municipalities of Coron and Culion.
- ECOFISH actively participated in the meetings of the Grassroots Participatory Budgeting (GPB) Provincial Secretariat for the province of Palawan held on 28 March 2014 and 28 July 2014. ECOFISH was nominated as one of the members of the Provincial secretariat representing the Calamianes Island Group.
- As the recognized and accredited Civil Society Organization in the Calamianes Group of Island (CIG), ECOFISH was appointed as member of the Regional Assessment Team (RAT) in Palawan Cluster 1-CIG organized by DILG. The RAT is directed by the Department to conduct assessment and validation of Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLC) of the 4 LGUs in the CIG. The assessment was conducted on 12-23 June 2014. The team is composed of not less than three (3) members from DILG, CSO and NGA-partners. The Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) and Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLC) are core components of the performance oversight, incentives, recognition and awards program of the Department of Interior and Local Government.
- A series of partner consultations and gathering of data for social enterprise development was held in the municipalities of Culion, Linapacan and Coron. Some of the important information collected were: (a) mariculture of abalone, oysters, sea cucumber, siganids, and green grouper are potential species that can be cultured in Culion; (b) Western Philippines University (WPU) has an existing fish processing course which include processing of spicy *dilis*, fish rings, smoking, drying and *lamayo* making; (c) Linapacan is not yet ready to delve into ecotourism. Power is not yet constant as electricity available for only 12 hours a day. Water supply is still a major problem, with only a few water sources tapped for the 7,000 residents. There are, however, a number of existing and potential ecotourism sites around the 10 island barangays; and (d) In Barangay Pical in Linapacan, an island barangay inhabited mainly by Tagbanuas, appears to have potential for setting up an enterprise involving herbal medicines. This type of enterprise



will be scoped with Unilab, a Filipino pharmaceutical company that has expressed interest in partnering with ECOFISH in scoping for herbal-based drugs.

- As part of social preparation for enterprise development particularly in areas of the Tagbanua tribe, ECOFISH initiated the discussion with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and Tagbanua leaders in securing its Free and Prior-Informed Consent (FPIC). To date, the ECOFISH Project and NCIP agreed to hold its validation meeting with the Tagbanuas after the sharing of results of NCIP's IPS validation activity. The activities for validation will include the proposal to enhance their user fee scheme and the AMPA project of the PNP-MG. November 2014 is the tentative month for the ECOFISH validation meeting.
- Provided technical assistance and coaching to the MPA management teams of Coron, Culion and Linapacan to effectively manage their protected areas, this include re-organization of the management teams and updating of MPA management plans. ECOFISH is also working closely with Calamianes MPA Network officers (CMN) to assist them in the formulation of by-laws and constitution, at the same time work on strengthening the network which will create a venue to coordinate with one another to share experiences, enhancing the efforts to manage their respective MPAs.
- As part of its coaching and mentoring support to partner POs, ECOFISH conducted a series of Organization Diagnosis (OD) workshops in Culion, Busuanga and Culion on 11-14 July 2014.
- ECOFISH co-sponsored the Paralegal Training for Marine Protected Area Managers of Busuanga, Palawan: A Community Based Approach to Law Enforcement" on 20-21 August 2014 in Coron Village Lodge, Coron, Palawan in partnership with Community Centred Conservation (C3). The training aimed at enhancing the capacity of MPA managers in Busuanga on paralegal work. Towards the end of the activity, an operation planning workshop was held together with the LGUs, PNP and PNP-MG personnel to discuss enforcement issues and plan for next actions.
- A dialogue-meeting with Calamianes local enforcement agents and the PNP-MG National Director was conducted on 12 September 2014 in Coron, Palawan. The threat maps produced by ECOFISH together with local enforcement agents in the 4 municipalities of the CIG were reviewed. Local enforcement agents from Busuanga and Coron provided updates on how the threats are being addressed.
- To strengthen the enforcement initiatives in the CIG, ECOFISH facilitated the conceptualization of posters as a form of IEC to complement the enforcement activities in the field. The posters were conceptualized by CIG enforcement teams during the enforcement assessment conducted in Year 1. ECOFISH collected and enhanced the concept and presented it during the dialogue meeting with enforcement teams in September 2014 for validation and printing.
- Attended value chain analysis training course held on 29 September to 01 October 2014 in Batangas. The training on value chain studies was led by Dr. Robert Pomeroy. Each MKBA finalized their choice of species to be subjected to value chain studies. Participants drafted their workplans for the conduct of value chain studies. These will be finalized and submitted to the Senior Resource Economist by 17 October 2014. The actual studies will commence in November 2014, and will be completed by April 2015.



## 5.2. Danajon Reef MKBA

The annual work plan for Year 2 was guided by the EAFM benchmarking results. It likewise described the activities that would apply the principles and practices to reversing the decline of fish biomass in municipal waters and restore profitability of fisheries in Danajon Reef using the ecosystem approach to fisheries management as a keystone for improved social, economic and environmental benefits.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Danajon Reef MKBA under the various deliverables

<b>Danajon Reef MKBA</b>				
<b>Site Activities/Interventions</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR Region 7 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan.	C			
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data</b>				
Finalize Fisheries Profiling and Review Benchmarking of LGUs.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability Training.				O
Develop MPA Network Design (Bohol).		O	O	O
Marine Protected Area Network Training Workshop.		O	O	O
Baseline Assessment Results, IEC/Conflict Management.		O	O	C
Fish Examiner Training (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			O	O
EO 305 Orientation and Local Legislation Administrative Adjudication Training (Bohol).			O	O
Conduct Coastal Law Enforcement Training (Bohol).	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Pilot testing of online fishery registration using TV white space and Super WiFi (Bohol).		C		
Implement mobile registration (Bohol).		C		
Establish registration hub and training (Bohol).		C		
Community Partnership Training/Business Planning (Bohol).		C		
Community Partnership Monitoring and Mentoring (Bohol).		O	O	O
Conduct monitoring on crab assessment (Bohol).		O	O	O
Conduct data analyses result (Bohol).			O	O
Link up with DSWD-SLP for community partnership (Bohol).			O	C
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
MPA result validation (Bohol).		C		
Conduct Marine Protected Area Baseline Assessment (Leyte).	O	O	O	O

Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).		O	O	O
Presentation of MPA management plans to barangay councils, MLGU, C/MFARMCs for adoption. (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			O	O
Provide technical assistance to POs managing the MPAs/fish sanctuaries in the implementation of their management plans (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			O	O
Collaborate with BFAR, PFO, OPA and BEMO for the deputization of Special Enforcement Teams for the POs managing the MPAs/fish sanctuaries (Bohol).			O	O
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Conduct consultations with fisherfolks through MFARMC re: identification of species-specific or fishing gear studies (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).		O	C	
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Conduct Hydrodynamic Study and Dispersal Modeling (Bohol).			O	O
Establish MPA Network (Bohol).			O	O
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
Review and second drafting of Danajon Reef Fishery Resource Management Plan involving BFAR, NGOs, OPA, BEMO, DENR and other partners (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).		O	C	
Conduct Workshop on the Finalization of Danajon Reef Fisheries Management Plan (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			C	
Provide Technical assistance to BEMO, OPA on the presentation and adoption of the Danajon Reef FRM Plan (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			C	
Conduct Coastal Law Enforcement Assessment Workshop (Leyte and Southern Leyte).	O	O	C	
Facilitate issuance of the Executive Order for the creation of Municipal Coastal Law Enforcement Team (Leyte and Southern Leyte).	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to LGUs on the review and finalization of municipal CFRM plans (Leyte).		O	O	O
Provide technical assistance in the presentation of municipal CFRM plans to Municipal Development Councils for adoption and incorporation to their Annual Development and Investment Plans (Leyte and Southern Leyte).		O	O	O
Conduct consultation/review of existing municipal zoning plans of MLGUs (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).		O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Provide technical assistance in the conduct of FishR (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).	O	O	O	O
Levelling-off with partner agencies (MARINA, PNP-MG, PNP, PCG, BFAR, PAO and LGUs) on FishR (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).	O	O	O	O

Drafting of ordinance on Registration and Licensing (Leyte).			O	O
EO 305 Training and Boat/Gear Registration System (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).			O	O
Data on LGU collections, revenues and expenditures (Bohol).	O	O	O	O
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Conduct of IEC for the public to pay their obligations as revenue generation (Bohol, Leyte, Southern Leyte).	O	O	O	O

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- Facilitated Public Private Partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Microsoft Philippines on the use of TV White Space technology for mobile fisherfolk registration. The system was installed ahead of schedule in the Telecommunication Office and Tubigon Community Hospital which served as a communication hub for the relief efforts for the 15 October 2013 Bohol earthquake victims. The system was used primarily by the PDRPMC, DSWD, PNP and Tubigon Community Hospital. Request for donations and relief goods from various donors were immediately communicated, responded, and delivered to the affected areas.
- In addition to the support from the PPP between the DOST-ICTO and the ECOFISH Project, the partnership donated 20 computer tablets to the six (6) municipalities of Carlos P. Garcia, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, Talibon, and Tubigon. The 6 local government units logged the highest number of registered fishers.
- ECOFISH staff assisted the technical personnel from Microsoft in conducting interviews and focus group discussions with key informants for a case study on the use TV white space.
- Provided administrative assistance during the visit of the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Asia Bureau, USAID-Philippines Mission Director, and ECOFISH team headed by the Chief of Party, during the conduct of a dialogue with the municipal officials of Tubigon and other stakeholders on the impacts of the Bohol earthquake and Typhoon Haiyan on coastal ecosystems and livelihoods. The output of the meeting resulted in USAID's affirmation to support the short-term relief and long-term rehabilitation efforts of the Government of the Philippines, particularly in Bohol that was severely affected by both disasters.
- Conducted a training workshop on business planning and identified activities for potential livelihood or income generation projects to be supported by PPPs. Most of the LGUs provided initial budget allocations based on their BuB for 2015. Four business plans were converted into project proposals to be presented to the Sangguniang Bayan, Municipal Mayor then linked with BuB proposals for budget allocation. Organizational diagnosis (OD) of POs in the municipalities of Tubigon, Inabanga, Getafe, Buenavista and Clarin were conducted.
- The project proposals related to tourism development were presented to the Provincial Tourism Office of Bohol for inclusion in the provincial tourism development framework

plan. The Provincial Tourism Office has committed to extend technical assistance through skills training based on the needs identified by the community.

- Facilitated a trainers training on the MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool. The assessment team is composed of BEMO, BFAR, OPA, and ECOFISH staff. A total of thirty (30) MPAs were evaluated within the focal sites of ECOFISH. An additional 22 MPAs were evaluated under the municipalities previously covered by the FISH Project (Bien Unido 13 MPAs and Talibon 9 MPAs). During the assessment it was found that most MPA management plans were no longer reviewed and implemented. Majority of the MPA ratings were low compared to the ratings in the preceding years.
- A revisit of first draft coastal/fishery resource management plan was conducted in Leyte (6 LGUs) and Southern Leyte (1 city and 1 MLGU). The activity was well-attended by the municipal CRM technical working groups, other partner agencies from DILG, BFAR, DENR, PNP and PNP-MG. In addition to the workshop a coastal law enforcement assessment was conducted. Also included during the event was the launching of the “Adopt a Marine Protected Area Project” (AMPA) as presented by RMO Chief PSSupt Carlos E. Salazar of PNP-RMU8 and Deputy Chief Ronel Antonio Refama.
- This was followed by consultations for each LGU for the final refinement of their CFRM plans. Each LGU presented a final draft of the CFRM plans except for the LGU of Hindang, Leyte and Maasin City that needs to obtain and update their municipal fishery profile. However, fisheries management strategies and activities for the CFRM plans in all LGUs are now established.
- Reviewed the second draft of the coastal/ fishery resource management plan of six municipalities of Leyte and two in Southern Leyte. These plans are now on different stages of completion. Refined CFRM plan of Matalom and Bato were presented to the Sangguniang Bayan and approved on 23 June 2014. The Inopacan CFRM plan was already submitted to the Sangguniang Bayan for further deliberation and comments for approval of the budget during the second week of July 2014. Those for Hilongos and Hindang are being updated for entries on fisheries data including the budgetary requirement of programs and activities. Baybay City CFRM plan is still being restructured and verified by the members of Municipal Technical Working Group on its fisheries data and management strategies. Macrohon CFRM plan was already approved by the Sangguniang Bayan. Maasin City’s is in the process of refinement and finalization of the figures and tables for municipal fishery related data and budgetary requirement of various activities.



18-20 June 2014, Danajon Bank (Bohol) Feedbacking Session. Provincial and municipal officials of focal municipalities in Bohol that form part of the Danajon Bank MKBA joined fisherfolks, the Bohol Provincial Fisheries Office, and other ECOFISH partners in workshops that took up the results of socio-economic, biological and regulatory/law enforcement baseline surveys undertaken in the area in the past year. Partners and stakeholders feedback are factored in during the strategic and action planning workshops that ensue.

- Facilitated in the conduct of presentation on the result of 2013 baseline assessment feedbacking and revisited previous fisheries management plans and made refinements to the outputs of the benchmarking activities.
- In coordination with other key partners, ECOFISH staff participated and actively assisted in the celebration of several significant events such as: Month of the Ocean, Environment Month, International Coastal Cleanup and Fish Conservation Week. The ECOFISH site coordinator served as resource speaker during the Fish Conservation Week and Month of the Ocean program.
- Provided continuous support to ELAC and TK in the conduct of consultation meeting with law enforcers, lawyers and judges to enhance the collaborative efforts among the enforcement teams and the partner agencies in the Danajon Reef.
- As requested by the Provincial Board Members, the ECOFISH Site Coordinator presented the concept of the research on species-specific assessment and trial of spawning potential ratio method for the blue swimming crab in selected sites of Danajon. This was for the Sangguniang Panlalawigan members to support a resolution authorizing the Provincial Governor to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Provincial Government, PACPI, USAID and ECOFISH/BFAR in the conduct of the study on SPR of Blue Swimming Crab.
- Three enumerators and one supervisor were hired and trained to conduct an inventory of primary blue crab fishing operation, data on catch trends, size frequency and other baseline information in the islands of Hambongan, Inabanga, Handumon, Getafe; Guindacpan island, and mainland barangays of San Pedro, both in Talibon. The baseline data collection started on the third week of May 2014 is still ongoing.
- Orientation and creation of administrative adjudication workshop was facilitated in the municipality of Tubigon. Proposed amendments to the municipal fishery code was presented by Atty. James Kho during its SB session for comments and finalization of the code. After finalizing the specific amendments on the article and sections of the code, it

was referred to the MFARMC which has now passed a resolution to the Sangguniang Bayan for deliberation and adoption.

- Facilitated scoping meeting with potential NGO partners for enterprise development, MPA strengthening and networks, training on psycho-social and stress management. Identified four potential NGOs candidate (WDC, VSU, CCEF, PSF/ZSL) to implement project under Special Activity Fund (SAF). These NGOs are on the process of preparing the project proposals.
- In collaboration with another project partner from Asia Foundation and USAID project like COMPETE, additional scoping meeting was facilitated in the Municipalities of Tubigon and Buenavista. It was discussed during the meeting the assistance that could conceivably be extended by the Consultant - Mr. Ludwig Reid from Asia Foundation regarding Tourism and Infrastructure development.
- Conducted meeting with the Provincial PNP Director, PNP Maritime Director, Provincial Commander of Philippine Coastguard and staff to discuss the concept on Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA), updates on Leahy Vetting, status of CLEC 2 and strengthening of Municipal Coastal Law Enforcement Team. Distributed vetting forms to those personnel who have not yet filled up the forms. A total of sixty six (66) personnel in uniform in Bohol, while in Leyte and Southern Leyte, there were forty five (45) PNP personnel vetted. Selection of top 8 to 10 newly-assigned enforcers/MCLET/MFLET were now being created in all covered municipalities Danajon-wide.
- Organized two trainings on basic law enforcement to new members of Municipal Fishery Law enforcement team in 6 towns of Leyte (Baybay City, Hindang, Hilongos, Inopacan, Bato, Matalom) and for Southern Leyte, City of Maasin and LGU of Macrohon. Aside from the inputs on legal aspect, workshop on poster development was emphasized. The participants were able to develop a concept on how to convey to the public through drawings on the poster to support enforcement.
- Mobilized IFARMC meeting in Leyte and Southern Leyte. Major output during meeting was the update on the approval and distribution of Artificial Reef in identified barangays covered within 5<sup>th</sup> District of Leyte. Reports on illegal fishing were also recorded. The IFARMC formulated a resolution requesting the City Mayor of Baybay to consent with Mr. George Omolon is Chair of IFARMC despite of the new position assigned to him as Market Supervisor.
- In partnership with BEMO and BFAR, ECOFISH staff provided continuous technical assistance during the conduct of Re-orientation and strengthening of the Municipal Law Enforcement Teams in the nine (9) municipalities, namely: CPG, Ubay, Trinidad, Bien Unido, Talibon, Getafe, Buenavista, Inabanga and Clarin. The municipality of Tubigon has not yet conducted its training due to conflict in schedule of the Mayor and other expected participants.
- Convened two consultative meetings (23 June and 22 August), one pre-summit (22 August) and one operative conference (04 September). This series of meetings is part of the preparation in the conduct of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bohol Coastal Law Enforcement Summit. The participants during the succeeding consultations were the Provincial Heads of the national enforcement agencies, Municipal Mayors and staff of the Governor's Office.

Status of coastal law enforcement and recommendations from the participants was the major output of the pre-summit workshop.

- The workshop result during the pre-summit meeting was presented to the Provincial Governor for his comments and recommendations that might be considered in designing on the coming schedule of the 2nd Bohol Coastal Law Enforcement Summit. During the operative meeting, the Provincial Governor provided guidance on the new provincial framework of coastal law enforcement. The consultant of ECOFISH (Mr. Mar Guidote) consolidated and enhanced the idea from the Provincial Governor.
- Facilitated/coordinated the conduct of 2<sup>nd</sup> Bohol coastal law enforcement summit. After 13 years of operation from the first summit, the activity had provided many opportunities to the participants in expressing their happy and sad experience, facing the very difficult situation in enforcement actions. Sharing on the case studies from other provinces had boosted the morale of all the enforcers and gained confidence in doing more in their jobs. The Provincial Governor strongly expressed his support and commitment to the participants. The Municipal Mayors, Board Members, lawyers and judges who attended during the summit noted all the issues raised by the enforcers. In the new framework initiated by the Provincial Governor, he has to assign one lawyer in every cluster of municipalities for more effective implementation of the fishery laws and quick response to problems from the enforcers (particularly in the filling of cases). The activity was attended by over 100 participants and ended successfully.
- Through the support of ECOFISH, an induction of newly assigned Bantay Dagat members in Hindang Leyte and Macrohon Southern Leyte was also conducted.
- ECOFISH team composed of Judah Aliposa, Rupert Sievert, Kima Carla Cedo, and Lito Fragillano conducted presentation of accomplishments and upcoming project activities in BFAR Region 8. The ECOFISH team was well received by the BFAR region 8 led by ARD Justerie Granali. Visits to PNP provincial offices were also conducted.
- The ECOFISH Project provided technical assistance to the Local Government Unit of Inabanga by assisting in the conduct of Participatory Coastal Resource Assessment in all coastal barangays last 10-13 September 2014.
- Participated in the University of the Philippines-MERF SMRR workshop. Collected data from various sources on past studies within the area of Danajon/Bohol, and met the Team Leader (Dr. S. Mamauag) of MERF to review and validate the data collected. Transcribed initial draft on the various sections and outline of the State of the Marine Resources Report.
- Participated in coordination meeting with personnel from the regional enforcement agencies held at ECOFISH Office, Cebu City. This led to the assessment of current collaboration in conducting seaborne patrol operations in the Danajon area. Also agreed on re-planning activities region-wide/Danajon-wide.
- Site coordinator and CRS conducted consultation meeting with the Regional Director, Assistant Regional Director and regional division heads of BFAR –Region 7 and 8 re: presentation of updates on the field level of operation of ECOFISH/BFAR project. Accomplishment reports were appreciated and consistent supports were articulated by the Regional Directors for activities to be included in the Year 3 work plan of ECOFISH.

- Constant feedback and updating with the Municipal Mayors, SB committee on Fisheries, Provincial head of government agencies, and partners from the regional office was executed.
- On the socioeconomic component, the list of all PO/fishers organization within the Danajon-wide area was submitted. Also the record on the source of revenue generation, permitting system and budget allocation to CRM was collected.
- Provided technical support to the Local Government Unit of Getafe in the presentation of the EAFM Fisheries management plan during the meeting of the Municipal Development Council. In principle, the Municipal Development Council appreciated and adopted the plan.

### 5.3. Lingayen Gulf MKBA

The second year of implementation in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA included introducing the concept of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) to local partners. Assessments on climate vulnerability and law enforcement were conducted, results of which were fed back to partners along with results from Year 1 baseline, fish catch monitoring and socio-economic assessments. Initial steps for dialogue with local partners on the establishment of an inter-local cooperation have been made, and further strengthening of talks will continue in Year 3. The establishment of a network of marine protected areas will be conducted under the Special Activities Fund (SAF). Changes in the approach to livelihoods have resulted to the focus on social enterprise development to be conducted in Year 3.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Lingayen Gulf MKBA under the various deliverables.

Lingayen Gulf MKBA				
Site Activities/Interventions	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Assist in the collection and consolidation of toolkits, IEC materials, workshop/training reports in the area related to EAFM, MPA and CCA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Conduct ECOFISH-EAFM Training for BFAR Region 1 QRT.	C			
Conduct law enforcement training for BFAR Region 1 QRT.	O	O	O	O
Conduct training on results of baseline assessments and benchmarking.	O	O	O	C
Conduct training on EO 305, with registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance in 8 LGUs (3 batches).	O	O	O	O
Conduct FARMC-wide orientation on ECOFISH and EAFM – initiate consultation process on EAFM issues.	O	C		



Conduct LGU orientation- training on EAFM to initiate fisheries management planning process.	O	C		
Provide support in the conduct of fish examiner training.	O	O	O	O
Assist in climate vulnerability assessment through consultation and training.	C			
Conduct consultation for inter-LGU zoning of fisheries and other uses of marine waters.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Mobilize partners and assist in conducting community partnership training/business planning training.	O	O	O	O
Assist in community partnership in monitoring and mentoring.	O	O	O	O
Assist in enabling community partnership.	O	O	O	O
Impact assessment of community partnership.				O
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Finalize candidate species for specific studies and conduct rapid assessment of status of fisheries for the species in MKBA.	O	O	O	C
Gather secondary data on candidate species.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Provide technical assistance for the strengthening of existing MPAs and AR management.	O	O	O	O
Conduct basic MPA orientation and MPA Plan formulation training for local partners, MPA management councils in La Union (and Ilocos Sur).	O	C		
Conduct MPA Monitoring training for local MPA management councils in La Union and Alaminos.	O	O	O	O
Conduct meetings with PNP-MG to facilitate AMPA Project.	O	O	O	C
Conduct assessment of candidate MPAs for network and identify needs to strengthen management.	O	C		
Consult with partners for finalization of the MPA network design; conduct partner consultations and meetings to set up component MPAs as part of the network.	O	C		
Conduct workshop for organization of the Lingayen MKBA MPA network (to include Ilocos Sur MPAs; will use results of larval studies).	O	O	O	O
Draft MPA network design for existing MPAs in La Union/Sual-Alaminos-Northern La Union.	O	O	O	O
Conduct MPA Network Plan formulation workshop and agreement.	O	O	O	O
Develop plan to implement MPA network management in component MPAs including tasking and financing.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				

Conduct an assessment/inventory of enforcement issues and response capabilities of focal area LGUs.	C			
Conduct Fisheries Management Planning Workshop for San Fernando City and Bauang.	O	O	O	O
Conduct Fisheries Management Planning Workshop for Rosario and Sto. Tomas and Alaminos City.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance on finalization and adoption of fisheries management plans.	O	O	O	O
Conduct workshops to enable formulation of Provincial Fisheries Management Program.	O	O	O	O
Conduct consultations on development of LGU alliances in Lingayen Gulf.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Training on use of on-line fisher registration system.	O	C		
Orientation on fishing boat and fishing gear registration system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Leverage with SCREMP – Agoon-Damortis Protected Seascape, Hundred Islands National Park.	C			
Assist to assess/validate feasible environment-friendly micro-enterprises.	O	O	O	O
Leverage for collaboration with DOLE-SLP for micro enterprise development. Note: Other opportunities to be sought in Year 3	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Conduct assessment of possible value chain improvements.	O	O	O	C
Assist in capitalization of coastal adaptation funds.	O	O	O	O

## Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- In October 2013, the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement with the provincial government of La Union set the stage for strengthened networking with local partners.
- The fisheries law enforcement assessment with local partners revealed three main concerns: (1) the continued use of explosives; (2) use of fine mesh nets; and (3) intrusion of commercial fishing vessels into municipal waters. Concerned law enforcement agencies, such as the PNP, PNP-MG and Coast Guard, were informed in initial talks, and the positive feedback to urgently address these issues with the cooperation of local government units is a welcome step.
- Local partners, during the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Planning Workshop, identified its three main inter-LGU priorities as coastal or fisheries law enforcement, fisheries management, and the establishment of a marine protected area network. With these identified priorities, the project has primarily focused on possibly establishing an inter-local cooperation focused on fisheries law enforcement.
- The revival of a possible inter-local cooperation to address fisheries management issues was reviewed based on earlier and present experiences in the Lingayen Gulf, such as the Lingayen Gulf Coastal Area Management Commission (LGCAMC) which was mainly an inter-agency intervention, the Sagip Lingayen in Pangasinan, and the Bay Watch in La Union. The NEDA RO1 expressed support for a possible alliance in the quarterly meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Sectoral Committee. A concept paper was drafted by the Lingayen MKBA for further feedback from partners.
- Initial talks with the PNP-MG to support their Adopt-a-Marine-Protected-Area (AMPA) project was welcome. ECOFISH will provide technical assistance once the PNP-MG has identified their AMPAs in the site.
- A seagrass assessment was conducted in focal areas of the province of La Union to determine the extent of seagrass beds in the area which are most likely feeding grounds for the rabbitfish locally known as *malaga*. The results revealed that there are few existing seagrass beds that need protection. The results have been shared with partner LGUs and next steps will be taken towards establishment of a seagrass reserve in Sto. Tomas municipality.



A seagrass assessment in La Union revealed few seagrass beds with the presence of juvenile *Siganid*. Steps to protect these remaining habitats will be taken in Year 3

- The identified species for the value chain study is the *Siganid*, and will be a collaborative study with BFAR RO1. Participation in the value chain study workshop was held end September to further discuss the processes involved. The value chain workplan was finalized.
- Gathering of administrative adjudication data requirements was conducted as part of the national study on the effectiveness of administrative and judicial modes of penalizing violations of fisheries laws. The study will recommend enhancements to local ordinances to include

effective administrative adjudication.

- The Lingayen Gulf MKBA and key partners participated in the State of the Marine Resources Report workshop to determine available data, data gaps, and other concerns related to writing of the report. Required data was later collected and submitted to UP-MERF.

#### 5.4. Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf – San Bernardino MKBA

Year 2 expanded the circle of institutions ECOFISH relates and works with in the aspects of biodiversity conservation, governance and socio-economic development. The increase came naturally as more institutions became visible during the period, partly because of the actions they have taken which come from the exercise of their mandates and partly because by their very own geographic location they too exert a recognizable influence over fisheries exploitation, ecosystem functioning, regulations, and social development in the area. An initial set of potential MPA sites in each of the focal municipality has been identified from the baseline assessment done by MERF and BFAR RO No. 8's own survey. Sardine fisheries is an important fisheries in the focal area; it provides a cheap source of animal protein easily accessible to the population but in recent years its productivity has declined. ECOFISH undertook a review of secondary information and field reconnaissance which support the public's recommendation of making the sardine fisheries the subject for species management. ECOFISH, with the BFAR RO8 encouragement, has also opened talks with local governments in the adjacent municipalities who have expressed willingness to participate in the joint management of the fisheries. A SUC and two local NGOs are interested in collaborating in enterprise development for the fisherfolk.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Ticao Pass- Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino MKBA under the various deliverables.

<b>Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf - San Bernardino MKBA</b>
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Site Activities/Interventions	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR Region 5 and 8 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan.	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Assist in local case study development.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
Assist in the collection of existing data.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</b>				
Assist in the collection of existing data.	O	O	O	O
Participate in workshop.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Baseline Assessment Results presentation.	O	O	C	
Coordinate in the preparation of enforcement trainings.	O	O	O	O
Conduct of law enforcement trainings.	O	O	C	
Local legislation and administrative adjudication.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Community partnership scoping.	O	O	O	O
Community partnership training/business planning.	O	O	O	O
Assist in preparations for PPP-DAP Training.				O
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
Presentation of the fisheries and socio-economic baseline assessment results.	O	O	C	
Conduct of PCRA.				
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Collect background secondary and primary information.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
MPA site identification and consultation.	O	O	C	
Review of existing MPAs.	O	C		
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the MKBA</b>				
Conduct law enforcement assessment workshop.			C	
Assist in the preparation for inter-LGU alliance.				O
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Conduct orientation on fisherfolk, boats and gear registration and licensing.	O	O	O	O
Initiate registration and licensing training.	O	O	O	O
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Gather existing secondary information on revenue generation.	C			
Collect baseline on LGU revenues and expenditures.				O

Assist in value chain analysis study.				O
<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in Other MKBA</b>				
Participate in BUB/GPB proposal development.		O	O	O
Coordinate with PRDP.			O	O
Collaborate with local NGOs and SUCs.		O	O	O

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- Pre-planning and post-planning consultations for the Year 2 Work Plan were held with BFAR RO 5 and 8 and the six LGUs in the focal area.
- Two local case studies were proposed: the revision of the Butag Bay (Bulan) fish sanctuary (which presently does not enjoy public support because of its large scope) and the complex management challenge of Matnog Bay (Matnog) which contains a port, fish sanctuary, public park, mariculture zone and mangrove reforestation project.
- Fisheries profiles and relevant studies of the coastal municipalities of Sorsogon province were collected and submitted to MERF for input to the SMRR. LGU and BFAR representatives attended the first SMRR workshop in May 2014 at UP-MSI.
- The results of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessments were presented to the stakeholders in June 2014.



In response to an urgent request from Bulan, Sorsogon Mayor Marnellie G. Robles-Ballesteros, ECOFISH Ticao-Lagonoy Gulf-San Bernardino MKBA team conducted consultations with fishers from at least six coastal barangays, of Bulan, San Vicente and Capul both in Northern Samar on 22-29 September 2014. The team led by site coordinator Rupert Sievert and fish biologist Ian Joey Tajonera gathered valuable information on *lawlaw* fisheries. *Lawlaw*, or *Sardinella lemuru*, has experienced a massive decline in the past 3-5 years due to overfishing.

- LGU officials, *bantay dagat* teams and PNP personnel of Bulan, Matnog, Santa Magdalena and Prieto Diaz attended a law enforcement assessment workshop in June 2014. The PNP Maritime Group Director Chief Supt Noel Lazarus Vargas was guest speaker.

- Two months after the law enforcement assessment workshop, identified blast and compressor fishers and traders of dynamited fish were called to Bulan and warned.
- Fisheries ordinances in the focal area do not have provision for administrative adjudication. An orientation on administrative adjudication is therefore planned.
- Most fisherfolk organizations (except for two in Prieto Diaz and three in Bulan) are informal or inactive. Two SAF concept notes, one for enterprise and market assessment and another for organizational preparation and enterprise development, have been drafted. The University of Eastern Philippines and two NGOs, SPPI and CERD, are in a position to help in this matter.
- The site team and the Provincial Fisheries Officer Gil Ramos with Bulan Mayor Marnelie Ballesteros Robles in July screened nominees for the PPP-DAP training.
- ECOFISH reviewed catch landing data (going back to the last ten years) at the Bulan Fish Port and interviewed in September fishers and LGU officials in Bulan, San Vicente, Capul and Biri to gather background information (fresh and post-harvest markets, species, gears, fishing grounds, spawning months) about the sardine fisheries.
- The fisheries baseline assessment of MERF and a survey by BFAR 8 have recommended a number of suitable sites for the establishment of MPAs: Penafrancia and Poblacion 3 in Sta. Magdalena; Calintaan and Culasi in Matnog; Butag in Bulan; Destacado in San Vicente; Pio del Pilar, Magtutuka and San Pedro in Biri. In addition, based on BFAR RO5's recommendation, the Marilag sanctuary in Diamante, Prieto Diaz will be relocated because of very low live coral cover. LGU officials of these municipalities have accepted the formation of these MPAs. A BUB proposal for the San Vicente MPA has been submitted. ECOFISH also coordinates with the Management Board of the BiriLaRoSa Protected Seascape which covers Biri municipality.
- ECOFISH has talked to the LMP chapter presidents of Sorsogon, Barcelona Mayor Manuel Fortes, and Northern Samar, Lavezares Mayor Quintin Salodaga, for the establishment of an inter-LGU alliance.
- Ordinances pertaining to fisheries fees and charges have been collected and examined. Only Capul does not provide for auxiliary invoice for the transport of fishery products. The site team has difficulty disaggregating data for fisheries revenues from the municipal revenue records.
- The CRS and a local enumerator have been trained and will be involved in the conduct of a value chain analysis study.
- The site team regularly attends BUB/GPB meetings at the BFAR RO5 regional and provincial levels.
- The site team also coordinates with the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP) team which covers Bulan and Matnog. The PRDP provides assistance for seaweed culture and agricultural commodity production and MPA management.

## **5.5. South Negros Island MKBA**



During Year 1, several site level activities in Southern Negros Island were facilitated to include start-up and “hand shake” activities with key personnel from the Regional and Provincial BFAR Offices, local government chief executives and their key personnel performing coastal and fisheries resource management functions. Major accomplishments consist of baseline assessment workshops in EAFM governance and coastal law enforcement capacities, underwater assessments of Marine Protected Areas, focus group discussions and one-on-one interviews on fisheries. Fish catch data gathering and socio-economic surveys in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City were likewise facilitated.

The results of these assessments enabled us to analyze the current state of fisheries and coastal resources in South Negros which is very useful in identifying strategies and planning for the activities in the next four years of the Project. One of the major challenges in implementing EAFM in Southern Negros is the prevalent commercial fishing vessel intrusion within municipal waters. Moreover, banking on the strong and continuing provincial support to local coastal and fisheries resource management programs and presence of inter-LGU collaborations to complement local fisheries management regulations, integrated fisheries management planning and implementation coupled with intensification of coastal law enforcement were the main focus for Year 2.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the South Negros Island MKBA under the various deliverables.

<b>South Negros MKBA</b>				
<b>Site Activities/Interventions</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR Region 6 and 7 regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Orientation for governor and newly elected local executives	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
Facilitate collection and review of relevant data on fisheries.	O	C		
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Basic coastal law enforcement training (2 clusters: Negros Oriental and Occidental)	C			
Follow up EO/ authorization of newly trained M/CFLET.		C		
Finalization/ presentation of CLE posters to LGU and printing of posters.				O
Training on local legislation and administrative adjudication.				O
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Coordinate and send-out invitations to local POs, businessmen and BFAR staff for the community partnership assessment.	C			

Facilitate the conduct of community partnership training.	C			
Follow up meeting with PPP partners.				C
PPP impact monitoring.				C
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
Presentation of the biophysical (fisheries and MPA) and socio-economic baseline assessment results and training on how to utilize these data in fisheries management (gear and species specific management, zoning), identification of revenue generation schemes, VA and among others.			C	
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Validation meeting with LGU and fisherfolks on proposed species- and gear-specific management initiatives.			O	O
FGD with the fisherfolk and other concerned stakeholders on the proposed species and gear management.			O	O
Consultations and workshops on drafting the ordinance.				O
Follow-up enactment of ordinance.				O
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Hydrodynamic study and dispersal modelling (c/o MERF).		C		
Presentation of MPA network design/ MPA network training-workshop.			O	O
Support new MPAs 1 in Hinoba-an and Sipalay (creation of MPA Management Committee and formulation of MPA Management Plans).			C	
MEAT assessment in all MPAs (to be done annually).	C			
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
Facilitate the conduct of integrated coastal and fisheries management planning for South Negros.			C	
Follow-up activities: consultations on proposed fisheries management strategies such as registration, licensing, gear and species specific management, coastal zoning, etc.				O
Facilitate meeting on the finalization of delineation ordinance of Cauayan and Siaton.	O	O	O	O
Technical support to Basay and Cauayan in drafting their Comprehensive Fisheries Ordinance.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate marine spatial planning in Southern Negros.				O
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Registration and licensing training and drafting of ordinance	O	O	O	
Facilitate forum on mobile CFVRs and EO305.	C			
Support to the actual mobile registration in Negros Occidental and Oriental.	C			
Support Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit: registration and licensing (FishR and BoatR).	C			
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Collection of data/ information needed for revenue generation schemes.				C

**Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA**

Collect necessary data needed and scoping for PO partners in social enterprise development.	O	C		
Consultation with the POs, LGU and other players in preparation for the social enterprise development in partnership with Alter Trade.	O	C		
Consultation with Campomanes Ballo MPA Management Committee on sustainable financing strategies.	C			

**Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments**

- As part of the agreed action plan during the Coastal Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) and Climate Change Adaptation Training participated by BFAR 7 and LGU counterparts from Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City in Tagaytay City last 23-27 September 2013, orientation workshops for LGU technical staff were conducted by BFAR 7 staff in the Provinces of Cebu, Negros Oriental and Siquijor in the February and March 2014. For the province of Negros Occidental, a CVA Facilitators Training will be conducted in October 2014.
- Out of 7 focal LGUs in South Negros, only the Municipality of Basay has no Fisheries Profile. In close coordination with the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist of Basay, Environment and Natural Resources Department (ENRD) and the Office of the Mayor, Basay's 2014 Fisheries Profile was drafted and presented to Mayor Cañamaque for approval.
- Together with BFAR-Negros Oriental's Provincial Fisheries Officer, Provincial CRM Coordinator and LGU partners from Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City, we participated in the Orientation Workshop for the Development of the State of the Marine Resources Report at UP Diliman, Quezon City.
- Subsequently, with the secondary data collected and information gathered during workshops and field visits, the Fisheries Profile and State of the Marine Resources Report for South Negros MKBA has been drafted.



Ten (10) fishery law enforcement team members from Siaton, Seven (7) from Sta. Catalina, ten (10) from Bayawan City, ten (10) from Basay and two (2) each from PNP-MG 702nd Unit, Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine Navy were trained during the 31 October 2013 Coastal Law Enforcement Training.

- In collaboration with the PNP-MG, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Bayawan City Prosecutor's Office, BFAR 7 and the 3rd District Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC) of Negros Oriental, the Coastal Law Enforcement Training for Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City and Basay was conducted on 29-31 October 2013. As a result of the said activity, LGU Basay Team has been reactivated and has been conducting seaborne patrols within their municipality in close coordination with their local PNP.
- On 06 November 2013, ECOFISH participated in the CLEC Meeting in Bayawan City where all four municipalities (Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan City and Basay) were represented and we discussed coordination of seaborne operations and clarified roles and responsibilities of each team member. Authorizations for the Fishery Law enforcers signed by their respective Mayors were collected and uniforms provided by the ECOFISH Project were distributed.
- To date, the following business plans (BPs) have been translated to project proposals: Mangrove Eco-Tour of Sta. Catalina, VITIBO Lucky Fishing Supply in Bayawan and Sta. Catalina Ice Plant and new proposals- Backyard Quail Farm and Native Chicken Production, were drafted and submitted to concerned National Government Agencies (NGAs) for funding. While the BPs on Mud Crab Fattening in Siit, Siaton and Siit Bay Seaweeds Farm were already implemented with BFAR funding (under Bottom-up-Budgeting projects in 2013).
- Community Partners Meetings in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City were facilitated on 12-14 March 2014. The meetings discussed the concept of Grassroots Participatory Budgeting Processes (GPBP) as well as updates on the proposals submitted for CY 2014-2015. Also identified were enterprises/livelihood projects to be proposed for CY 2016. Organizational diagnostic tools to facilitate the assessment of Fisherfolk Associations (FAs) were presented together with updates on the status of business plans prepared last 17-18 September 2013.
- As part of the community partnership activities, all partner POs underwent organizational diagnostics to determine their readiness in implementing projects. For the Cabangahan Mangingisda Association (CAMASS), the Project facilitated a workshop with its officers and members to formulate their Vision, Mission and Goals (VMG) and form management committees on 19 May 2014.
- The results of the Organizational Diagnosis in the municipalities of Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City were presented and validated with key fisherfolk organization officials and concerned Municipal Agriculture staff on 27-30 August 2014. Most fisherfolk partner organizations are in the infancy stage although they are all accredited with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the LGU.
- The results of the biophysical (fisheries and MPA), governance and socio-economic baseline assessments were presented during the EAFM Planning on 14-16 April 2014.
- Follow-up discussions on species- and gear-specific regulations were initiated during the Coastal Law Enforcement (CLE) Assessment Workshops in July 2013 where the mapping of issues and violations in South Negros showed the use of fine mesh nets - beach seine/ *dalahis* in particular - as the second most critical issue that needs to be

addressed. A marked increase in the use of fish aggregating devices or *payaos* in all 7 focal LGUs was also noted.

- On 18 September 2014, in one of the Municipal Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (MFARMC) meetings in Siaton, the plenary raised their concern on possible regulatory mechanisms to address the needs of beach seine operators who will be directly affected by future regulations on the use of beach seine (*dalahis*).
- On 31 March 2014, participated in the Sipalay City's "barongoy"/ flying fish "Fishtival" as part of their annual celebration of City Charter Week where different competitions are organized for registered fisherfolk. This is one of the major community awareness activities of the city to promote coastal conservation and the importance of registration and licensing for fisherfolk.
- On 29 September to 01 October 2014, a Training on Value Chain Studies was participated by 8 site coordinators and 8 value chain enumerators. The Southern Negros team came up with tuna value chain objectives and core process flow, identified major actors and drafted the 6 month work plan.
- ECOFISH coordinated with LGU focal persons and logistic needs for the hydrodynamics study that was facilitated by MERF last 13-16 January 2014 in Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Bayawan City as basis for the MPA network model. The result of the study still needs to be presented to key LGU and NGA personnel.
- In partnership with the City of Sipalay, ECOFISH conducted the Management Planning Workshop on 18-21 November 2013. The said activity came up with draft Management Plans for the four (4) Marine Protected Areas (MPA) namely: (a) Campomanes-Ballo Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (CBMRS) in Brgy. IV and Maricalum; (b) Maasin Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (MMRS) in Brgy. Maricalum; (c) Sunken Island Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (SIMRS) in Brgy. IV and (d) Julien's Wreck Marine Reserve and Sanctuary (JWMRS) Brgy. Cartagena. These MPAs were newly established in 2013 except for CBMRS hence it was very timely to orient the Management Committees on the concept of coastal resource conservation, management and rehabilitation and the importance of MPAs. Ms. Rina Rosales, ECOFISH Senior Resource Economist gave the inputs on sustainable financing mechanisms and MPA monitoring.
- In June 2014, ECOFISH also facilitated the MPA Participatory Planning Workshop for the four MPAs in Hinobaan, namely: Sangke, Culipapa, Daug and Pook. Among the major outputs of the workshop are the following:



Dr. Angel Alcala of Silliman University during the plenary sessions and planning workshops below, working with representatives from his hometown, Municipality of Cauayan.

- (1) Presentation of the salient points of the Municipal Ordinances declaring the establishment of these 4 MPAs;
  - (2) Get the commitment of the Management Board members and clarify their individual functions in the management of the MPA;
  - (3) Identify issues and strengths of each MPA and actual status; and
  - (4) Draft four MPA management plans as part of the Comprehensive MPA Management Plan of Hinobaan. These plans will be endorsed to the Sangguniang Panglunsod (SP) for adoption and budgeting.
- In celebration of Environment Month, a series of orientation and feedbacking were conducted in three (3) Barangays of Siaton with established Marine Protected Areas (namely Siit, Bonbonon and Salag MPAs) on 26-27 June and 30 June 2014. This series of community dialogues were started with coastal clean-up where the type and amount of collected garbage were documented.
  - The findings of the baseline assessments showed the drastic decline in Andulay MPA's live coral cover to 0.8% after Typhoons Sendong and Pablo. The report further shows decline in coral cover and fish species diversity in Bonbonon and Salag MPAs. The results of MEAT also showed the need for improved governance in all three MPAs particularly in sustained financing, IEC, monitoring and evaluation.
  - The concept paper and call for proposals for the Establishment of Marine Protected Area Network in the Southern Negros MKBA as part of the Special Activities Fund (SAF) was facilitated starting the second quarter of Year 2. The said SAF targets three new MPAs to be established in Year 3.
  - Facilitated the conduct of Baseline Assessment Feedbacking and Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Planning for South Negros Marine Key Biodiversity Area (MKBA) on 14-17 April 2014. The main outcome was an Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Framework Plan specific for South Negros MKBA and individual Coastal Fisheries Resources Management (CFRM) Plan for all seven (7) focal LGUs.
  - Another major accomplishment in December 2013 is in partnership with OPA Negros Occidental and BFAR 6 -- the 3<sup>rd</sup> Negros Occidental Fisherfolk Summit. The said activity served as an avenue for all FARMC Chairpersons and their LGU counterparts/mentors in the province to share their experiences, lessons learned and identify gaps and priorities in fisheries management and at the same time elect their Provincial Fisherfolk Representative.
  - In support to the finalization of delineation ordinances of Cauayan and Siaton, a consultation between Zamboangita and Siaton was held in May 2013 and both LGUs have agreed on the delineation and delimitation of their municipal land area and municipal waters. Follow-up activities were facilitated this year and LGU Siaton is waiting for the final technical description from NAMRIA for the drafting of its ordinance. In the case of Cauayan, they have already received the technical descriptions from NAMRIA but the finalization of the delineation ordinance is still pending.



- Participated in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) Writeshop at Nature's Village Resort in Bacolod City for Hinobaan and other LGUs of Negros Occidental on 25-26 November 2013. The CLUP of Hinobaan is for revision after public hearing was conducted in July 2013.
- Regular participation in the Southern Negros Coastal Development and Management Council (SNCDMC) Technical Working Group and Executive council meetings to provide technical support and ECOFISH project updates.
- One of the major challenges in implementing Coastal Fisheries Resources Management (CFRM) in the Province of Negros Occidental is the prevalent illegal fishing violations particularly commercial fishing vessel intrusion within the municipal waters in South Negros. With this, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental is reactivating its Provincial Bantay Dagat Special Action Team (PBDSAT) in order to augment the municipal fishery law enforcement teams from the twenty five (25) coastal municipalities and cities.
- On 10 March 2014, ECOFISH participated in a closed door meeting with Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO), Philippine Reef and Rainforest Foundation, Inc. (PRRCFI), Regional Maritime Unit VI and 603rd Maritime Police Station in Bacolod City and Negros Occidental Provincial Public Safety Company on the proposed seaborne operations. The group has successfully apprehended a commercial fishing vessel with 27 crew members on 25 March 2014 fishing within the municipal waters of Cauayan.
- The Provincial Inter-Agency Coastal Law Enforcement Team (PIACLET) Training at Circle Inn, Bacolod City was facilitated on 22-24 April 2014 to achieve the following objectives: (1) orient uniformed (regular) enforcers of the Province about the predominant coastal and fishery violations, and other issues that beset the province of Negros Occidental in general; (2) orient them of past and present actions undertaken by the Provincial Government (PEMO/OPA) as well as other agencies/donors to address these issues and explain the gaps; (3) sharpen knowledge and skills needed by uniformed personnel to address issues that confront the province; and (4) plan a strategic and tactical action to address the violations in a more sustained manner.
- As part of sustaining mechanisms of the project, province-wide coordination and core group meetings are also facilitated. On 14 July 2014, the Overview of the Project, the status of fisheries in Southern Negros highlighting the CLE issues and compliance and enforcement related activities done last year and in the pipeline were presented during the Negros Oriental Provincial PNP Management Conference.
- Likewise, Negros Oriental Core Group/ Check Point meetings were facilitated in January and July 2014. This is a short inter-agency and cross-sectoral interaction supported by ECOFISH and BFAR partner agencies in fishery enforcement involving the heads/ representatives from the Environment and Natural Resources Department (ENRD), Office of the Provincial Agriculture (OPA), DENR- Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO), Negros Oriental Provincial Police Office, PNP-MG, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA), and Coastal Law Enforcement Council (CLEC). With this meeting, information from partner



agencies is collated to assess the issues and concerns and decide what action to take. As a result, the agencies will be able to act quickly, in a coordinated and consistent way, ensuring strengthened law enforcement operations in the area.

- In partnership with BFAR Regional Office 7 and Negros Oriental Provincial Fisheries Office and the Philippine National Police Maritime Group (PNP-MG) 702nd Unit, sponsored and conducted the Forum on Fisheries Registration, Licensing and Permitting System in Siaton and Basay on 23-24 October 2013 as part of the 50th Fish Conservation Week Celebration. This activity was participated by around 100 municipal and commercial fisherfolk and LGU personnel from the LGUs of Siaton and Basay, Negros Oriental. This forum paved the way for the information dissemination on the upcoming Joint Mobile Registration for commercial fishing vessel owners and operators in November 2013.
- As a follow-up to this activity, there is a need to conduct awareness raising activities on fisheries registration and licensing particularly to those fishers not belonging to any fisherfolk association not only in Siaton and Basay but also to the rest of South Negros MKBA. For Siaton, there is a need to review ordinances on Administrative Adjudication. While for Basay, a forum with the Local Chief Executive (LCE) and Sangguniang Bayan (SB) is needed to lobby for the adoption of the Fisheries Code and organization of the FARMC. For the time being, FishR implementation should be prioritized and EO 305 implementation will follow once an ordinance is passed. In support to the implementation of FishR, a FishR database orientation for Dumaguete City, Siaton and Sta. Catalina technical staff were facilitated on 14 February 2014. At the same time, participated in the Western Visayas/ Region VI FishR Launching at Royal Garden Hall, Iloilo City on 18 February 2014.
- Technical support was also provided during the mobile registration for CFVs (107 out of 144 IUU commercial fishing vessels in Negros oriental are from Siaton, Sta. Catalina, Bayawan and Basay).
- Facilitated preparation and approval of the project concept on Sustainable Enterprises for Municipal Fishing Communities of South Negros (SEMFISH-South Negros) in partnership with Alter Trade Foundation, Inc. The SEMFISH-South Negros project will complement the larger ECOFISH project by empowering fishers' communities through multiple people-based enterprises that will improve and sustain their livelihood on non-fishing endeavors. While the ECOFISH Project focuses on improving the biodiversity and the ecosystem productivity in South Negros, the SEMFISH project will assist coastal communities to develop sustainable social enterprises that harmonize with ecosystem conservation and generate sufficient income for the small fishers' households.
- The consultation with the POs, LGU and other players in preparation for the social enterprise development in partnership with Alter Trade were not yet facilitated since the processing of the SAF is still in progress.
- A meeting with Governor Marañon of Negros Occidental was facilitated with the Chief of Party last February 2014 while orientation visits with newly elected Mayors were also facilitated during the first and second quarter of Year 2.
- In partnership with BFAR Provincial Fisheries Office, a Culmination Activity of Farmer's and Fisherfolk Month was conducted last 26 May 2014.

- In partnership with Peace Corps volunteers assigned in Southern Negros and the LGU of Bayawan, Sta. Catalina, Siaton and Zamboangita, a series of day camps were facilitated for elementary and high school students last 27, 29-30 May and 06 June 2014. This was also in celebration of the Month of the Ocean and Farmers and Fisherfolk Month with the theme “*Mangingisdang Direktor para sa mas Matatag na Balikatan*”.

## 5.6. Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur MKBA

ECOFISH Project in Surigao del Norte strengthened its cooperation with local partners, such as the Provincial Agriculture Office (PAO), the Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO), DILG, DENR, PNP/PNP-Maritime, and the Hinatuan Passage Development Alliance - Technical Advisory Group (HIPADA-TAG). The Project has regularly updated and coordinated with them side by side with BFAR Caraga through its Fisheries Resource Management Division (FRMD), its quick Response Team (QRT), and the Provincial Fishery Office (PFO) of Surigao del Norte.

Although the focus of the project implementation was originally the six (6) mainland LGUs, ECOFISH in Surigao del Norte has also extended assistance and included the LGUs of Malimono and San Francisco in a number of key activities that involved the HIPADA, as these LGUs are members of said inter-LGU alliance. These key activities included the Marine Sanctuary Forum, and updating of the Provincial CRM Framework Plan, among others. The Project has also identified and involved key LGUs in Siargao Islands in key activities, namely: Dapa, General Luna, Del Carmen, Santa Monica and Socorro. They have been invited to law enforcement assessment workshop and trainings, enterprise development consultations and scoping, and two of these LGUs in revenue generation mechanism-related activities, and other major province-wide activities.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur MKBA under the various deliverables.

Surigao del Norte – Surigao del Sur MKBA				
Site Activities/Interventions	2014			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR CARAGA Region regarding the Year 2 Work Plan.	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
Review and finalize EAFM benchmark for the municipalities in the focal area.	O	O	O	C
Finalize first draft of fisheries profile.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				

Conduct climate change impact and vulnerability training.	O	O	O	O
Develop MPA network design.	O	O	O	O
Conduct marine protected area network training workshop.	O	O	O	O
Present baseline assessment results and conduct IEC / conflict management training.	O	O	O	C
Conduct fish examiner training. (Put on hold by BFAR)	O	O	O	O
Conduct orientation on EO 305.	O	O	O	O
Conduct orientation on local legislation administrative adjudication.	O	O	O	C
Conduct coastal law enforcement training.	O	C		
Conduct orientation / consultation with Surigao City Marine Traders Association and market officials re: ECOFISH Project overview and introduction to basic EAFM/fisheries concepts.	C			
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Pilot testing of Smart-DILG-DA-DOTC PPP.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping / focus group discussion on public-private partnership.	C			
Conduct community partnership training / business planning.	O	O	O	O
Conduct community partnership monitoring and mentoring.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
Presentation of the fisheries and socioeconomic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment.	O	O	O	C
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs in the conduct of PCRA.		C		
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Conduct consultations with fisherfolk through MFARMC regarding the identification of species-specific or fishing gear-specific management.	O	O	O	O
Assist BFAR-FRMD in the conduct of consultation for the sailfish management plan.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to BFAR in the implementation of sailfish management plan in Surigao del Norte.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Conduct marine protected area baseline assessment (MPA MEAT).	O	O	C	
Establish MPA network.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to PAO and PEMO for the finalization of mechanics for the provincial search for the best marine protected area/fish sanctuary. (Activity was cancelled by the province)	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to focal LGUs for the formulation of MPA management plans.	O	O	O	O
Presentation of MPA management plans to barangay councils and C/MFARMCs for adoption.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to POs in the implementation of MPA / fish sanctuary management plans.	O	O	O	O
Collaborate with BFAR, PFO, PAO and PEMO in the deputization of PO members as fish wardens in managing MPAs/fish sanctuaries.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the MKBA</b>				

Conduct coastal law enforcement assessment workshop.	C			
Review of the existing provincial CRM framework plan involving BFAR, PAO, PEMO and HIPADA-Technical Advisory Group.	C			
Conduct workshop on the finalization / updating of the provincial CFRM framework plan.	O	C		
Provide technical assistance to PAO and PEMO for the presentation and adoption of the provincial CFRM framework plan.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate issuance of executive orders on the creation of municipal coastal law enforcement teams.	O	C		
Facilitate issuance of executive orders on the creation of municipal CFRM technical working groups.	O	O	O	O
Conduct consultations with HIPADA-LGUs on the drafting and formulation of coastal and fisheries resources management plans.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance to HIPADA-LGUs on the formulation and finalization of CFRM plans.	O	O	O	O
Provide technical assistance in the presentation of CFRM plans to municipal development councils for adoption and integration to their annual development and investment plans.	O	O	O	O
Conduct consultation / review of existing municipal zoning plans of HIPADA-LGUs.	O	O	O	O
Develop marine zoning plan.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Provide technical assistance to BFAR Caraga in the conduct of FishR.	O	O	O	O
Consultation with partner agencies (MARINA, PNP-Maritime, PNP, PCG, BFAR, PAO and LGUs) on FishR.	O	O	O	O
Conduct registration and licensing training, and drafting of ordinance.	O	O	O	O
Conduct training on EO 305 and boat/gear registration system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Consultation with LGUs of Del Carmen and General Luna, Siargao Island.	C			
Conduct of willingness-to-pay survey Gen.Luna, Siargao Island	C			

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- Introduced basic fisheries management concepts to public market fish vendors and marine traders of Surigao City on 16 October 2013 as part of BFAR's Fish Conservation Week Celebration. The City Public Market Administration facilitated the attendance of the officers of the fish vendors association, while Ocean Bounties Seafood Market and Restaurant facilitated attendance of fellow members of the Marine Traders Association of Surigao City. Both the City Public Market Administration and Ocean Bounties look forward to future fisheries-related events and activities. ECOFISH also collaborated with Ocean Bounties to co-celebrate Fish Conservation by having a "No Seafood Day" within the week-long celebration.

- Reviewed the Provincial CRM Framework Plan on 25 October 2013 with partners PAO, PEMO, PNP-Maritime, HIPADA-TAG, DENR, BFAR. The draft framework plan was formulated in 2005 and has not been finalized. ECOFISH has been involved in its updating since 2012. Results of baseline information assessments will be used to update sections of the CRM framework plan. Then on 11-13 February, ECOFISH facilitated the Writeshop on the Updating of the Draft Provincial CRM Framework Plan at the Almont Beach Resort, Barangay Lipata, Surigao City. Participants included the PAO, PEMO and other LGU representatives from Malimono, San Francisco and Socorro that were originally members of the drafting committee. PNP-Maritime was also represented. The PEMO, PAO and ECOFISH are consolidating the outputs of these activities to finalize the framework plan.
- Facilitated and assisted UPV Ocean Bio Lab in the conduct of MPA Baseline Assessments on 11-17 November 2013 in Barangay San Isidro, Surigao City; Sitio California, Barangay Opong, Tagana-an; and Sitio Nagubat & Borason Reef in Barangay Alambique, Gigaquit.
- Assisted DA-MRDP, MAO of Tagana-an and BFAR in the collection of *dap-ag* (crown-of-thorns) on 20 November 2013 by conducting an orientation on habitats and ecosystems with emphasis on *dap-ag* infestation and collection in the island sitio of Nagubat, Barangay Alambique, Gigaquit; collected about a hundred *dap-ag* with DA and BFAR divers from FRMD, QRT and PFO.



07 April 2014, Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte. MOU Signing on the Adopt-A-Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project of the PNP-Maritime Group in collaboration with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Local Government of Tagana-an, Surigao del Norte. The project covers the 58-hectare Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary 1 (TMS1) in Sitio California, Barangay Opong, Tagana-an.

- Attended the MFARMC consultation in Gigaquit on 05 December 2013 and provided technical inputs during discussions on the inclusion of Borason Reef as expansion area of Nagubat Fish Sanctuary and the management arrangement among the adjacent communities in Barangay Alambique. The meeting agreed to amend the existing Nagubat MPA Ordinance, and to integrate the adjacent Borason Reef as part of the existing fish

sanctuary. Initial findings of MPA baseline assessments conducted by UP Visayas and BFAR 13 showed Borason Reef to be in better condition than the existing Nagubat Fish Sanctuary. The amendment will also include zoning schemes and enhancement of policies. The LGU Officials requested ECOFISH to provide technical assistance in the review and to provide inputs for the amendment of the ordinance.

- Assisted the LGU of Tagana-an with the PAO, PEMO, PNP-Maritime, HIPADA-TAG, DENR and BFAR in the conduct of Module 1 of the Training on the Establishment and Management of MPAs on 10-11 December 2013 in Barangay Fabio as part of preparations to establish a second sanctuary. Around 50 participants attended the training that consisted mainly of Barangay Council officials, FARMC members and Bantay Dagat. After lectures on basic CRM concepts and introduction on PCRA, actual field assessments followed. The PCRA report will provide the basis for the establishment of Tagana-an Marine Sanctuary (TMS) 2. PNP-MG is also looking into the possibility of adopting this sanctuary site under its AMPA project, following its adoption of TMS-1 in Sitio California, Barangay Opong. With the same team, conducted Module 2 on 29-30 January 2014 at the Women's Center, Poblacion, Tagana-an.
- Consulted fisherfolk and coastal communities through the CFARMC of Surigao City re: law enforcement issues on 18 February 2014 at the City Agriculture Office in Surigao City. Then conducted site visits and field validation on 19-20 February 2014 in Barangays Buenavista, Alang-alang and San Isidro. With the persistence of dynamite fishing, use of cyanide and intrusion of *liba-liba* in municipal waters, fisherfolk communities are eager to form law enforcement task forces at the barangay level. Illegal fishers allegedly come from other municipalities or adjacent barangays that poach in the marine/fish sanctuaries of Barangays Buenavista and San Isidro.
- Participated in the meeting on the formation of the provincial law enforcement task force on 26 February 2014 at the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Session Hall, in collaboration with PEMO and other partner agencies, such as the PNP/PNP-Maritime, PCG, MARINA, DILG and the Sangguniang Panglalawigan. The meeting agreed to draft a MOA creating the task force, for the approval of the partner agencies.
- Supported the PNP/PNP-Maritime by conducting Project Orientation and Updating at the Surigao City Headquarters on 03 April 2014; by providing technical and logistical assistance to PNP-Maritime in the preparation, finalization and signing of AMPA MOU on 07 April 2014; and, by providing technical inputs in the AMPA Guard Training on 14 April 2014 in Barangay San Isidro, Surigao City.
- In celebration of the Ocean and Fisherfolk Month, conducted underwater clean-up (Scubasurero) on 14 May 2014 in Barangay San Isidro, Surigao City, in cooperation with the Barangay Council, PAO, PEMO, CAO and BFAR Caraga (FRMD, QRT and PFO).
- Continued supporting BFAR Caraga by providing inputs and by assisting FRMD during the LGU Consultation on the DA-DILG JAO on Sailfish Management Plan on 27 May 2014 at the Gateway Hotel, Surigao City. Mayor Lucio Gonzales of Pilar headed the LGU representatives. He has been actively pushing for the complete banning of *pamo* or gill nets as these have been believed to be causing the decline in catch of sailfish over the

past years since the annual game fishing event began in Siargao Island. Other participants in the consultation were from the DILG and the Provincial Tourism Office.

- Conducted MEAT during the Marine Sanctuary Forum on 28-29 May 2014 at the Gateway Hotel, Surigao City. Present during the forum were MAOs and ATs from the HIPADA and Siargao LGUs, as well as representatives from PAO, PEMO, DENR, DILG, PNP-Maritime and BFAR-Caraga (FRMD, QRT and PFO). The activity was able to determine that out of the 38 marine/fish sanctuaries in Surigao del Norte from 2001, only 19 remain functional. The activity was also able to assess these sanctuaries using the MEAT. Field validation of the MEAT results is currently ongoing with consideration to the availability of provincial and municipal personnel.
- Celebrated Coral Triangle Day in Bacuag and Gigaquit by conducting coastal clean-ups on 11 and 12 June 2014, respectively. In collaboration with the respective MAOs, gathered about a thousand students and faculty members from local schools in Gigaquit, FARMC and Bantay Dagat members, and LGU officials and personnel.
- Consulted DENR 13 on 11 July 2014 regarding complementation of project activities with PhilCCAP and SCREMP. Both DENR projects have livelihood funds that may be complemented with technical support from ECOFISH. SCREMP focuses on coral rehabilitation with livelihood interventions related to ecotourism, e.g. mud crab culture. On the other hand, PhilCCAP conducted livelihood needs assessment in the previous quarter and is willing to synchronize its livelihood program with ECOFISH.
- Conducted Project Orientation with PNP Region 13 Officials on 10 July 2014 at the PNP Headquarters in Butuan City. Deputy Operations Head PSSUPT Pedro Ubaldo, Jr. expressed his intention to install bay watch stations in hot spot areas in Surigao del Norte, as he has previously done in Lingayen.



Marine Sanctuary Forum held on 28-29 May 2014 at the Gateway Hotel, Surigao City in collaboration with local partners, such as the PAO, PEMO, DILG, PNP/PNP-Maritime, and the DENR. Around 50 MAOs/MENROs, ATs and NGOs from the LGUs of Surigao del Norte. The Forum determined that from the 38 fish sanctuaries established since the early 2000's, only 19 sanctuaries remain today. The Forum was also able to orient the participants on the Management Effectiveness Assessment Tool (MEAT) and served as a venue for LGUs to assess their respective sanctuaries as to effectiveness of management interventions they have been implementing.



- Paid courtesy call to newly assigned PNP-Maritime Group Regional Unit 13 Chief PSSupt Eugenio Malic on 27 August 2014 at the PNP-Maritime Group Regional Unit 13 Headquarters in Surigao City. He was previously involved with FISH Project and promised to maintain rapport with ECOFISH. On 09 September 2014 as part of its institutionalization of its Performance Governance System, PNP-Maritime Group Regional Unit 13 formalized the creation of its Advisory Council that included ECOFISH Site Coordinator as member, at the PNP-Maritime Group Regional Unit 13 Headquarters. As member of the Council, ECOFISH shall provide guidance and advice to the Regional Maritime Unit 13 in its endeavor to finalize and implement the Regional Maritime Unit 13 Patrol Plan 2020. With the ECOFISH site coordinator, the four (4) other members include the City Administrative Officer, the publisher of *Caraga Aksyon Balita*, the president of the PNP Values Formation Council-Community Transformation Inc., and the Barangay Captain of San Isidro.
- Facilitated conduct of Feedbacking and EAFM Framework Planning on 02-03 July 2014 at the Gateway Hotel, Surigao City. Thematic Leads presented the respective results of baseline information assessments conducted in Year 1 to over 40 participants from the focal LGUs in mainland Surigao del Norte. EAFM Framework Planning followed and came up with the top 3 issues that included fishery law enforcement, municipal water delineation and MPA establishment, management and networking.
- Conducted the Workshop on Local Fisheries Legislation: Delineation of Municipal Water Boundaries and Administrative Adjudication on 16-17 September 2014 at the Hotel Tavern in Surigao City. From this activity, identified two possible case studies, namely: (1) delineation/delimitation of municipal water boundaries in Surigao del Norte MKBA; and (2) the Lianga Bay experience in Surigao del Sur. Both topics relate to inter-LGU cooperation that may encourage LGUs to adopt the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management.

## 5.7. Tawi-Tawi MKBA

Preparatory activities in Tawi-Tawi during the Year 1 of project implementation included courtesy calls and presentation of the ECOFISH Project to the local executives and the BFAR Director and staff at the ARMM Region. Orientation and benchmarking workshops were conducted to determine the priority needs of the LGUs. Baseline assessments including catch monitoring, inventory of fishing gears, and socio-economic profiling were also conducted. Capacity assessment of municipal law enforcement teams was undertaken in order to assess and analyze the threats to the municipal waters, assess individual knowledge and skills of LGU fishery law enforcers and identify their training needs and areas for improvement to addressing the threats. The Tawi-Tawi site team conducted an evaluation of the existing MPA network established during FISH Project using MPA Management Evaluation and Assessment Tool (MEAT) to identify activities to strengthen the network. Identification and establishment of additional MPAs, particularly in the municipalities of Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa, and South Ubian is on-going and will continue towards the second year of the Project.

The Year 2 work plan activities for Sulu Archipelago MKBA focused on activities that contribute to the increase in fisheries biomass and increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management. The Project prioritized activities like the establishment of marine protected areas, establishment of Public-Private Partnerships supporting ECOFISH objectives, and capacity building on policy and governance, and especially the strengthening of coastal law enforcement teams.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Tawi-Tawi MKBA under the various deliverables.

<b>Tawi-Tawi MKBA</b>				
<b>Site Activities/Interventions</b>	<b>2014</b>			
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR ARMM regarding the Year 2 Work Plan.	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Identify and assist in drafting a case study integrating EAFM, MPA and CCA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the MKBA</b>				
Review and finalize EAFM benchmark for the municipalities in the focal area.	O	O	O	O
Finalize first draft of fisheries profile.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Fatwa consultation and production of IEC materials in local dialect.	O	O	O	O
EAFM orientation for BFAR ARMM regional team.	O	O	O	O
Coordinate BFAR ARMM, MARINA and LGU on EO305.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of orientation on EO305.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the Training of Police Community Relations Officers (PCRs) and Intelligence Officers on Community-oriented Policing System in the Coastal Environment in collaboration with the National QRT, PNP Training Command and US-DOJ ICITAP.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the Training for all PNP Maritime Group in collaboration with PNP Training Command in support of the Adopt an MPA Program of the Maritime Group.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the Fish Examiners Training for selected partners.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the Training for Tawi-Tawi MCS Team in coordination with BFAR-ARMM and ICITAP.	O	O	O	O

Presentation of the fisheries and socio-economic baseline assessment results and utilize these data in fisheries management, identification of revenue generation schemes, and vulnerability assessment.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Develop strategic partnerships; conduct partner negotiations, prepare MOUs, and conduct partnership forums.	O	O	O	O
Conduct training of enforcers in utilizing InfoBoard service of Smart.	O	C		
Implementation of InfoBoard service and monitoring.	O	C		
Develop community partnership/scoping activity.	O	O	O	O
Capacity building, community partnership training/business planning training.	O	O	O	O
Community partnership monitoring and mentoring.	O	O	O	O
Develop and establish ECOFISH business network.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping activities on which communities can be tapped for potential PPPs.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping activities on potential private sector partners for PPPs in ECOFISH MKBAs.	O	O	O	O
Conduct scoping activities to identify alternative livelihood schemes aside from PPPs for fishing communities.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 7: Bio-physical, Social and Economic Baseline Assessments</b>				
Conduct fisheries baseline assessment and monitoring.	C			
Presentation of results of biophysical and socioeconomic assessment.	O	O	O	C
Conduct of MPA baseline assessment and monitoring.	C			
Conduct of MPA MEAT for Bongao, Sapa-Sapa, Tandubas and South Ubian municipalities.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Identification of species-specific or fishing gear studies based on results of baseline assessment.	O	O	C	
Conduct consultative meeting with BFAR, LGU and stakeholders on species-specific and fishing gear management.	O	O	C	
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Re-organization and strengthening of MPA Management body of existing MPAs.	O	O	O	O
Establishment of new MPAs in Tandubas, Sapa-Sapa and South Ubian (consultation with community, training on MPA establishment, installation, and drafting of ordinance).	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance to PNP Maritime Group on the AMPA project.	O	O	O	O
Conduct of MPA MEAT for Bongao, Sapa-Sapa, Tandubas and South Ubian municipalities.	O	O	O	C
Facilitate meeting and consultations of MPA network in former FISH sites.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants on the conduct of enforcement training for MPA enforcers to coincide with the basic fishery law enforcement.	O	O	O	O
Intensify IEC campaign.	O	O	O	O

<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
Review of Fisheries Management Plans of Panglima Sugala and Simunul municipalities.	O	O	O	O
Reorganization/strengthening of Municipal Coastal Law Enforcement Teams (FISH sites).	O	O	O	O
Provide technical support in the establishment of coastal and fisheries law enforcement teams (LGUs new sites).	O	O	O	O
Strengthen Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance and establish linkage to PNP Maritime Group.	O	O	O	O
Formation/organization of municipal CLE teams (new sites) and issuance of authorization including facilitation of 1-day regular team meetings.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance on the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of on-demand/need-basis one (1) day specialization seminar for all team members.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the provincial-wide Team Building Exercises of coastal law enforcers.	O	O	O	O
Participate and /or facilitate team meeting of Tawi-Tawi MCS team.	O	O	O	C
Facilitate revival of the Provincial Coastal Law Enforcement Team of Tawi-Tawi.	O	O	O	C
Strengthen the inter-LGU law enforcement team (Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance).	O	O	O	C
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the Training for Tawi-Tawi MCS Team in coordination with BFAR-ARMM and ICITAP.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Review of municipal ordinance on the registration and licensing of fishers, fishing boat and gear (FISH sites).	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance to LGUs on the implementation of registration and licensing (FISH sites).	O	O	O	O
Coordination and support BFAR ARMM regional office in the implementation of FishR.	O	C		
IEC on building awareness on the acceptance of the system.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants for the conduct of FishR implementation, planning and actual implementation.	O	C		
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the conduct of admeasurement training with gear and boat registration in conjunction with MARINA, PCG and BFAR.	O	O	O	O
Provide assistance in the coordination and mobilization of participants in the conduct of workshops for SBs on drafting regulatory ordinance on licensing in collaboration with PCL local chapters or UP Law Center's popularizing the Law or Law for All program.	O	O	O	O

<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Scoping for a feasible revenue generation system.	O	O	O	O
Generate data in support for user's fee scheme.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Identification of sustainable financing program.	O	O	O	O
Conduct site validation for feasible sustainable financing program.	O	O	O	O
Conduct consultation with LGU and stakeholders.	O	O	O	O

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- On 17-18 October 2013, ECOFISH joined the BFAR-ARMM Provincial Fisheries Office in the IEC campaign activity to fishers of barangay Simandagit and Tubig Tanah, Bongao municipality, in observance of the 50<sup>th</sup> FishCon Week celebration. Presented MPA benefits and coastal habitat protection.
- On 04-08 November 2013, provided assistance to PNP-MG on the confiscation of 28 marine turtles which was apprehended off the seawater of Sitangkai and Sipangkot vicinities. There were 13 alive and 15 were stuffed dead turtles, both species of green and hawksbill turtles. Coordinated DENR, BFAR and LGU of Bongao for documentation and proper disposal of the confiscated marine turtles. Joined in the tagging and release of the 13 live marine turtles at Tango Island. This activity was participated by PNP-MG, BFAR, DENR, MSU and local media.
- On 25 November 2013 the site team attended the provincial launching of the National Fisherfolk Registration Program in Tawi-Tawi and participated in the hands-on training of FishR for project implementers
- On 14 December 2014, facilitated a visit to the 3 MPAs adopted by PNP Maritime Group in Lagasan-Pababag MPA and Ungus-Ungus Fish Sanctuary of Bongao municipality, and Batu-Batu\_Kulape MPA of Panglima Sugala Municipality.
- Facilitated discussion with religious group or Mufti on the preparation of a project proposal for the formulation of Fatwa on Climate Change through an environmental diplomacy program of the USAID.
- Presented and discussed with partner LGUs, PNP and the MPA Management Committees on the use of Infoboard service of Smart Communications and PNP Maritime Group on enhancing enforcement operations in Tawi-Tawi. This is an innovative strategy on enforcement to implement an information gathering, sharing and management mechanism. Partners were thrilled how the service will work and would respond to the different enforcement issues in Tawi-Tawi Bay. It is expected that enforcement will be more effective and efficient once the system will be in place.
- Completed baseline assessment of the three Marine Protected Areas by UP Visayas headed by Dr. Willie Campos last December 4-8. The three critical MPAs that will contribute to the 10% increase in biomass are Ungus-Ungus Fish Sanctuary of Bongao,

Batu-Batu\_Kulape MPA of Panglima Sugala, and Tonggusong-Maruwa Fish Sancturay of Simunul.

- Initially discussed with Prof. Abdulganih Eshmael on identifying scientific studies for fish species particularly on *bangus* spawner/*sabalo* in the Municipality of Simunul. The mayor of Simunul showed interest in preserving and protecting *bangus* spawner at Look and want to consider the area for close and open season or be declared a protected area.
- Conducted various meetings with MPA and Fish Sanctuary Management Committees where reorganization of the group were initiated and issues and concerns on the management were raised. Overall, all the fish sanctuaries need rehabilitation on the boundary markers, rehabilitation of guard house and repair and/or procurement of patrol boats.
- Initial meeting with Dr. Jumelita Romero for submission of proposal of SAF on the establishment/strengthening of MPAs. The site team provided data and information on the status of MPAs in Tawi-Tawi Bay.
- Facilitated various meetings in support to Adopt a Marine Protected Area (AMPA) Project of the PNP Maritime Group. Convening the members of the Tawi-Tawi Bay Fish Sanctuary Alliance was a head start in introducing the members to the PNP Maritime Group and be aware of the existing mandates and programs of the agency. Assisted the PNP-MG in the selection of MPAs/Fish Sanctuaries. And among the three (3) MPAs to be adopted by PNP-MG are Lagasan-Pababag MPA, Ungus-Ungus Fish Sanctuary and Batu-Batu\_Kulape MPA. Formation of TWG was conducted and presented the draft Memorandum of Understanding for approval of the Mayors of Bongao and Panglima Sugala. Visit to MPAs/FS by PNP-MG were also assisted and facilitated where initial dialogue with the members of the MPA Management Committees of the three (3) identified MPAs were undertaken.

- In support to AMPA, we have assisted the PNP-MG in the presentation of the MOU to Mayor Regie S. Generale of Panglima Sugala and Mayor Jasper S. Que of Bongao. Both Mayors commit to support the program and activities related to MPA. Mayor Generale suggested that all MPAs in Panglima Sugala be included in the AMPA of PNP-MG.



28 May 2014, Bongao, Tawi-Tawi. The 700DALOY launching program and pledging session of the I Love the Ocean Tawi-tawi Youth Movement, was capped by mangrove planting at the Mindanao State University – Tawi-Tawi Campus. Governor Nurbert Sahali, Chancellor Lorenzo Reyes, Director Noel Lazarus Vargas, Smart Communications and ECOFISH officials joined the Tawi-Tawi youth in planting about 2,000 mangrove propagules.

- Facilitated review of the fisheries management plans of the three municipalities of Bongao, Panglima Sugala and Simunul. Majority of the activities planned were not implemented mainly due lack of financial support. The changes of local executives also greatly affect the implementation of fisheries programs. With technical assistance from the project, the LGUs will be guided to sustainably manage their coastal and fisheries resources.
- The National Fisherfolk Registration Program of BFAR was provincially launched in Tawi-Tawi last 25 November 2013 at Dan Mar Beach Resort. The establishment of registry of fisherfolk at each LGU is to create a simple national system and database that is easily accessible to LGUs at all times. The launching event was followed by a hands-on training of BFAR provincial staff and LGUs on the database. Participating LGUs identified Local Communication Plans in implementing the one year Fisherfolk Registration.
- Provided assistance to the Municipal Fisheries Officers and MPDCs of Bongao and Panglima Sugala LGUs in an executive briefing with the Municipal Administrator of



Bongao and Mayor Regie S. Generale on the FishR implementation. Both LGUs committed to support the fisherfolk registration. Majority of the 11 LGUs of Tawi-Tawi started their fisherfolk registration in January 2014. As of March 2014, Tandubas municipality already finished the registration and downloading of the forms in the system. Other LGUs are still conducting the registration. Downloading of forms in the system is a major problem due to weak internet connection in Bongao while other municipalities do not have access to the Internet.

- Exploratory meeting with the Provincial Tourism Officer for scoping a feasible revenue generation system like collection of fees to arriving or visiting local and foreign tourists in Tawi-Tawi. This concept is to be further discussed with the provincial government for approval and develop materials for advocacy and promotion. The provincial government of Tawi-Tawi is underway on producing a video entitled “*Janti ma Tawi-Tawi*” (Beautiful Tawi-Tawi), promoting the culture and beautiful beaches and sceneries of Tawi-Tawi.
- On 11 May 2014, ECOFISH participated in the *ScuBasurero* and coastal clean up activity initiated by MSU held at the College of Fisheries area as observance of the Month of the Ocean. A short program was held which was graced by Congresswoman Hja Ruby Sahali supporting environmental awareness activities. Participated by PNP, Bongao Coast Guard, Philippine Marines, TF62, PNP Maritime Group, Tawi-Tawi Divers, WWF, ECOFISH Project and the Youth for Nature volunteers.
- On 28 May 2014, the launching and unveiling of the 700DALOY campaign billboard was held at the PNP Maritime Group Station, Bongao Pier. This major event aimed to gather major government and non-government partners within Tawi-Tawi and ARMM region to show public support for the 700DALOY hotline and campaign pilot in Tawi-Tawi, a partnership between the PNP-MG, USAID and SMART; to officially launch the 700DALOY hotline and campaign pilot in Tawi-Tawi to the general public; and publicly unveil one 700DALOY billboard in the Bongao Pier.
- On 09-13 August 2014 the ECOFISH site team travelled to Cotabato City and conducted courtesy calls to the different regional key partners e.g. Director Janice Musali of BFAR-ARMM, Director Alonto Sahiron of MARINA-ARMM, Assemblyman Sulay Halipa, Assemblyman Rudy Bawasanta and Solicitor General Atty. Sahara Alia Silongan.
- On 22-27 September 2014, the site team joined in the celebration of the *Kamahardikaan Sin Tawi-Tawi* (Tawi-Tawi Freedom Day).

## 5.8. Verde Island Passage MKBA

In Year 1, Coastal Law Enforcement and EAFM benchmarking were conducted to provide project partners with a clear picture on the actual status of governance, resource management programs as well as enforcement and compliance in each coastal municipality. This will serve as guide to identify the appropriate courses of action to effectively implement EAFM. A particular intervention identified was a proposed closed season for small pelagics. ECOFISH in collaboration with PGENRO and Conservation International, conducted a series of consultations with commercial fishers, fishing operators, municipal fisherfolks, LGU officials, NGOs, POs,

and other stakeholders to roll out the initiative.

The CLE and EAFM benchmarking results served as guide for the set of activities identified for Year 2. One key project intervention is the conduct of catch surveys and gonad study to determine the appropriate close season for small pelagics.

The table below summarizes the status (O – ongoing; C – completed) of interventions and activities in the Verde Island Passage MKBA under the various deliverables.

<b>Verde Island Passage MKBA</b>				
<b>Site Activities/Interventions</b>		<b>2014</b>		
	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>
<b>General Activities</b>				
Consultation with BFAR Region 4-A and Provincial Government regarding the Year 2 Work Plan	C			
Coordinate with the Provincial Executive Committee on the finalization and signing of MOU	C			
Courtesy call and presentation of ECOFISH project with the Governor, Batangas LMP Chapter and DILG	C			
Signing of MOU between DA-BFAR, ECOFISH and the Batangas Provincial Government	O	C		
<b>Deliverable 1: Policy Studies on EAFM, MPA and Climate Change</b>				
Facilitate gathering of existing information at the MKBA and municipal levels for the policy studies on EAFM, MPA and CCA	C			
<b>Deliverable 2: Toolkits, Sourcebooks, and Case Studies on EAFM, MPA, and Climate Change</b>				
Assist in the collection and consolidation of toolkits, IEC materials, workshop/training reports in the area related to EAFM, MPA and CCA.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 3: A National Database on EAFM Established Using the Annual Monitoring Data in the 8 MKBAs</b>				
Coordinate and assist in the collection of existing data in the area on fisheries resources management for the national data base on EAFM.	O	O	O	C
<b>Deliverable 4: State of the Marine Resources Report</b>				
Coordinate and assist in the collection of existing data in the area that are relevant to the State of the Marine Resources Report (SMRR).	O	O	O	C
Attend workshops or review sessions with ECOFISH team and partners to develop sections of the State of the Marine Resources Report.			C	O
<b>Deliverable 5: National, Regional and Municipal EAFM Trainings Conducted</b>				
Conduct consultation with local partners and assessment on the current state of fisheries and coastal resources management in the area.	O	O	O	C
Field coordination of training needs assessment, capacity building needs assessment, and benchmarking of capacity to implement EAFM.	O	O	O	C
Coordinate preparations for enforcement trainings, particularly the documentation processes for Leahy Vetting.	O	O	O	O

Coordinate preparations and conduct of trainings that may already be done in selected MKBAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct basic CLE training to Bantay Dagat</li> <li>- TNA for selected PNP-MPS and PNP-MG</li> <li>- TNA for Batangas Bantay Dagat Network members</li> <li>- Conduct CLE training for Batangas Bantay Dagat Network</li> </ul>	C	C		C
<b>Deliverable 6: Public-Private Partnerships Supporting ECOFISH Objectives Established</b>				
Assist in the conduct of site inspection and identification of potential PPP partnership opportunities.	O	O	O	O
Assist in the identification and mapping of stakeholders for PPP across and outside priority areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct organizational assessment/ diagnosis, scoping and mapping for SRG</li> <li>- Facilitate Skills enhancement</li> </ul>	O	O	O	O
Provide technical and administrative assistance during the Business Planning and Partnership Training Workshops preparations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Business Plans/ investment package development</li> <li>- Enterprise Development</li> </ul>	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 8: Scientific Studies on Select MKBA-Specific Fish Species</b>				
Coordinate consultation with stakeholders on species-specific or gear-specific scientific studies.	O	O	O	C
Coordinate collection of primary data and secondary information for the species-specific or gear-specific scientific studies.	O	C		
Provide administrative and technical assistance during the data gathering for the proposed seasonal closure in the Balayan Bay.	O	O	C	
<b>Deliverable 9: MPA Network Analyses</b>				
Conduct orientation and consultation on the establishment of MPAs - for areas without MPAs or need strengthening of existing MPAs (Municipalities of Calatagan, Tingloy and San Luis).	O	O	O	C
Facilitate identification of potential sites for the establishment MPAs (Calatagan and San Luis).	O	O	O	C
Coordinate consultation with stakeholders on the selection of MPA sites (Calatagan and San Luis).	O	O	O	C
Facilitate the review MPA management plans - for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs/ mentoring and coaching.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate strengthening of MPA management committee.			O	O
Provide assistance in the conduct of MPA evaluation and assessment – for areas with existing MPAs or network of MPAs.		O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 10: Fisheries Management Plans of Select Inter-LGU Alliances in the Eight MKBAs</b>				
Collect and consolidate existing municipal fisheries management plans, CRM plans, fisheries ordinances and other related materials.	O	O	O	C
Conduct orientation sessions on fisheries management and facilitate the conduct of the EAFM benchmarking process.				C

Conduct consultation to identify and prioritize fisheries management interventions that need to be initiated.				C
Facilitate the review of inter-LGU fisheries management plan (for those MKBAs with existing inter-LGU fisheries management plan).	O	O	O	O
Facilitate meeting with LGUs and other concerned stakeholders regarding marine spatial planning and zoning.				O
<b>Deliverable 11: Registry of Users of Municipal Waters Established in Select Municipal LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Collect, consolidate and review of existing registration and licensing systems.	O	O	O	O
Conduct orientation on the registration of fisherfolk and fishing boats and licensing of fishing gears or fishing operation.				O
Initiate registration and licensing trainings of LGU partners.				O
<b>Delivery 12: Revenue Generation System for Fisheries Management Established and Effectively Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Coordinate meetings with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on revenue generation system.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the gathering of secondary data related to revenue generation system.	O	O	O	O
<b>Deliverable 13: Sustainable Financing Programs for EAFM Implemented in Select LGUs in the MKBA</b>				
Coordinate meetings with local officials, POs, local NGOs, and other stakeholders in preparation for the workshop and consultation on sustainable financing programs.	O	O	O	O
Facilitate the gathering of secondary data related to sustainable financing programs.	O	O	O	O

### Highlights of Key Site-Level Activities/Accomplishments

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the implementation of the ECOFISH Project in the Province of Batangas was signed to formalize and strengthen the partnership and the collaborative efforts and initiatives of the parties last 26 March 2014.
- Provided support to the review and finalization of the Coastal Resources Management (CRM) Code of Mabini, Batangas, as requested by the Municipal Mayor during the LMP presentation of ECOFISH project. Relevant technical assistance was also rendered.
- Coordinated with various assisting institutions for the gathering of relevant information on EAFM, MPA and CCA.
- Suggested case studies for Verde Island Passage (Seasonal Closure for Balayan Bay, Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT) and Batangas Recognition Awards for Verde Passage's Outstanding (BRAVO) Marine Protected Areas).
- Coordinated with the MAOs in the 9 focal areas as well as BFAR-PFO and BFAR-NFRDI with regards to the various projects related to EAFM that were being conducted

and/or will be implemented particularly the fish catch monitoring and Baywide fisheries resource management program of BFAR.

- Coordinated with the various key players and local academic institutions (i.e. Batangas State University and University of Batangas), Conservation International-Philippines and PGENRO for the gathering of secondary data on fisheries resources management in the Province.
- Actively participated during the scoping and planning on the National Program of PNP-Maritime Group “Adopt an MPA Project”. Attended and represented ECOFISH during the soft launching in Solo, Mabini, Batangas last 02 December 2013.
- Participated in the Coastal Clean-up and MOU signing on the “Adopt A Marine Protected Area (AMPA) between the 401st PNP-Maritime Group and the LGU of Mabini, Batangas”.
- ECOFISH in partnership with PGENRO, Conservation International and through the support of First Gas Corp. and with partaking of LGUs, facilitated the series of CLE courses for the Batangas Bantay Dagat Network members, specifically the Coastal Law Enforcement basic and advance trainings were conducted in:
  - Mabini-Tingloy Bantay Dagat CLE refresher course, 20-22 November 2013
  - Batangas Bantay Dagat Network members CLE training, 25-27 November 2013
  - Lian Reef Ranger and Bantay Dagat CLE training, 28-29 November 2013
  - Nasugbu Bantay Dagat CLE training, 09-11 April 2014
  - Nasugbu Bantay Dagat Paralegal training, 03-04 July 2014
  - Bauan-San Luis-Taal-Calaca CLE training, 20-22 August 2014
- It is noteworthy to mention the participation of the Provincial Prosecutor Fiscal Lourdes Zapanta, the Provincial Legal Office, the Provincial DILG and the PNP Provincial Headquarters who expressed their support to the members of the Bantay Dagat, also to commend the participation of PNP-Maritime Group and DA-BFAR Fisheries Enforcement Office headed by Dr. Nilo Katada as resource persons.
- PGENRO sought the assistance of ECOFISH to provide technical assistance and facilitate the training needs assessment (TNA) for Batangas PNP Municipal and City



ECOFISH team during the Planning and soft launching in the Verde Island Passage MKBA of the “Adopt and MPA Project” of the PNP-Maritime Group led by PSSupt. Danilo Maligalig.

Police Stations and PNP-Maritime Group was conducted last 12 February 2014. Thirty

(30) selected PNP officers mostly composed of the Chief PNPs and their Investigators attended the TNA. The objective is to identify the institutional gap; to identify the knowledge and skills gaps of the PNP and be able to rate oneself using a guided skills identification method and; to agree on a common course of action to develop indicative schedule of activities and tasking of PGENRO, PNP and ECOFISH.

- In partnership with the PGENRO, Batangas Environmental Summit (BEST of 2014) for the Batangas Response Team (BERT) was conducted last 26-28 March 2014. BERT is composed of various concerned departments of the Provincial Government of Batangas as well as the various assisting institutions, the PNP, PNP-MG, PCG and the Batangas Bantay Dagat Network. BERT is being chaired by the Governor. The Summit focuses on the review of the existing compliance and enforcement strategies undertaken in the Province as well as review of the respective functions of BERT.
- Initiated meeting with Batangas Coastal Resource Management Foundation (BCRMF) for possible collaborative undertaking last 12 February and 11 March 2014. The meeting resulted to the invitation of the BCRMF to their regular partners meeting wherein ECOFISH PPP Specialist Mr. Lawrence Ang presented the PPP concept and possible areas for collaboration to the twenty six (26) members of the BCRMF mostly composed of the major industries, power plants and shipping companies in Batangas. The ECOFISH was welcomed by the University of Batangas (U.B) President Mr. Hernani Perez. The BCRMF is lodge in the University.
- Fish catch monitoring was conducted from 14 September 2013 to 09 February 2014. Four sites were identified: Mabini, Batangas City, Balayan, Calatagan in Batangas and Looc in Mindoro Occidental. The study was requested by the commercial fishers to substantiate and justify the recommendation for the seasonal closure of small pelagics in Balayan Bay.
- Conducted fishing gear validation and inventory for the commercial fishing vessels in Balayan Bay. The activity was conducted as a recommendation from the result of the fish catch monitoring data.
- Provided technical and administrative assistance to TWG of Balayan Bay particularly regarding the formulation of the Baywide Fisheries Management Framework Plan.
- Attended and participated in the series of consultative meetings and TWG meeting on Balayan Bay fisheries management option.
- Conducted the Ecosystems Approach for Fisheries Management Workshop for Balayan Bay, it was participated by representatives from the nine (9) coastal municipalities (except for Tingloy), and DA-BFAR Region 4-A, NFRDI Batangas, and PG-ENRO, last 27-29 August 2014 to formulate an Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Framework Plan for the VIP MKBA and its member LGUs.
- Provided technical and administrative assistance to Mabini, Tingloy, Calaca, Taal, Bauan, Lemery and Lian during the orientation on FishR for the municipal fisher folks. ECOFISH also provided technical assistance in troubleshooting basic software program of FishR.

- Attended and participated in the BFAR-PFO series of stakeholders consultation regarding existing livelihood programs related to fisheries resource management. Provided inputs regarding ECOFISH targets last February 2014.
- Provided administrative assistance to the thematic lead on socio-economic program in the conduct of meetings with five (5) coastal municipalities in connection with the livelihood component for the proposed closed season.
- Conducted stakeholder's consultation entitled "Incorporating Fisheries Resources Management (FRM) and Coastal Resources Management (CRM) into the Bottom-Up Budgeting (BuB) Process for 2015" held at BFAR-NFRDI National Biological Station in Butong, Taal last 06 November 2013. The Provincial DILG oriented the participants mostly composed of Municipal Agriculturists and Fisher folk representatives on the Grass Root Participatory Budgeting Procedures. Each LGU also presented their LPRAT for 2015.
- Conducted a dialogue with PNP Provincial Director to present the USAID-DA BFAR ECOFISH Project design and programs as well as a brief update on the technical assistance provided to the nine (9) coastal towns in Balayan Bay and to discuss possible areas of cooperation as well as to provide useful information on coastal law enforcement concerns to the members of Local PNP of the fifteen (15) coastal municipalities, also to inform them on the Leahy Vetting procedure of USAID.
- Presentation of ECOFISH to the Batangas LMP regular session held last 28 February 2014 at the LMP Conference Hall.
- Attended and actively participated in the meetings of the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the proposed closed season of Balayan Bay.
- Provided technical support to TWG meetings in connection with the proposed closed season of Balayan Bay. This includes the presentation of the results of the Fish Catch Monitoring and Fishing Gear Validation/Inventory for Commercial Fishers in Balayan Bay.
- Coordinated with the PG-ENRO and CI in the scheduling and preparation of the series of consultation conducted with the Local Chief Executives and Commercial fishers in connection with the proposed closed season of Balayan Bay.
- Provided technical and administrative assistance to the presentation of the result of the Repro-biological study for the proposed fisheries management intervention in Balayan Bay to the Local Chief Executives/LGU and Commercial Fishers in the Municipalities of Bauan, Lemery, Calaca, Balayan and Calatagan.
- Attended and assist in the facilitation of the 03 September 2014 meeting of the provincial government and nine (9) LGUs in the Balayan Bay area regarding the presentation of the result of consultations with five (5) LGUs and their respective commercial fishers group.
- Attended and participated in the public and committee hearings conducted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Bauan, Calatagan and Taal, Batangas on the proposed uniform ordinance for the proposed closed season of Balayan Bay.
- Attended and facilitated the meeting of Batangas Environmental Response Team (BERT) for the clustering and discussion of the proposed institutional set up of BERT. The



meeting resulted to the approval of the composition of three (3) clusters and recommendation for the operational planning workshop of the group.

- As a continuing activity, ECOFISH actively participates and attends regular meetings of the Batangas MPA and Bantay Dagat Network and provide technical assistance on the issues of fisheries management and coastal law enforcement (i.e. MPA expansion and establishment, strengthening of the coastal law enforcers of the partner LGUs not only in the focal areas but to other coastal areas in the VIP Batangas Province.

## **6. Performance Synopsis**

Two major natural disasters struck the Philippines during the first quarter of Year 2 of project implementation. A magnitude 7.2 earthquake with its epicenter near the Danajon Bank MKBA struck the central Philippines on 15 October 2013. On 08 November 2013, Supertyphoon Haiyan/Yolanda hit Samar, Leyte, northern Cebu and the Calamianes Islands. ECOFISH had to put on hold a number of planned activities (specifically in the Danajon Bank and Calamianes Island Group) and had to respond by immediately shifting to relief and rehabilitation efforts. The project team immediately coordinated collection of relief goods in the country and in the U.S. (through the ARD home office personnel).

In the aftermath of the Bohol earthquake and Supertyphoon Yolanda, partners in Bohol expressed a need to understand the science behind the natural disasters and the impact on coastal resources and communities. In response, ECOFISH organized a public forum called “Disasters, Climate Change and Biodiversity” and brought in experts in geology, meteorology and climate science to Bohol on 04 December 2013 to explain to the public and local officials the impact of the natural disasters. The forum was very well-received and -attended. Experts provided clear and science-based information, dispelling rumors and assuaging anxieties. They also exhorted the LGUs to make disaster risk management a priority, and for the general public to share in the responsibility of reducing risks. The forum was widely covered by media, which enabled more people outside the venue to hear and discuss the matter even many days after the event. ECOFISH also researched and collated easy to understand/popularized materials on the topics for dissemination to forum participants.

Table 3 summarizes the major performance indicators, life of project targets, Year 2 targets and actual accomplishments of the ECOFISH Project. Overall, is largely exceeding targets for Year 2 as set forth in the PMP. The number of national and local EAFM training courses conducted, number of persons trained, and number of person-hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA have exceeded the targets. This is largely because a number of orientation, assessment and evaluation workshops were transformed into full-blown training programs. Also some sites are more advanced than others and training activities intended for later years, such as planning for network of MPAs and spatial planning, were requested by partners to be conducted ahead of intended schedule. The number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management has also exceeded the target. The team underestimated starting levels of fisheries management initiatives in the former FISH project sites and presumed that they have declined since the termination of that project in 2010. It was likewise assumed that the four new sites would have

very low levels of fisheries management capabilities and interventions. Therefore, the project proposed a conservatively low target. However, the management and institutional benchmarking exercises conducted at the onset of project implementation provided a better picture than expected.

**Table 3. Performance Indicators, Life of Project Targets, Year 2 Cumulative Targets and Accomplishments for Year 2**

PIRS <sup>1</sup> No.	Key Result Area	Indicator	LOP Target	Year 2 Target	Accom- plished
1	<b>Result A.</b> An average of 10% increase in fisheries biomass across the eight MKBAs.	Percentage increase in the biomass of selected fisheries in the focal areas across the 8 MKBAs relative to baseline using fisheries dependent method and MPA assessment method	10	NA	NA
2	<b>Result B.</b> A 10% increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment from sustainable fisheries management from a baseline established at the start of the project	Percentage increase in the number of people gaining employment or better employment in the focal areas across the eight MKBAs relative to baseline using socio-economic methods	10	NA	NA
3	<b>Result C.</b> Establishment of a national capacity development program to enhance the capacities of LGUs and relevant national agencies to apply ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management.	Number of EAFM training courses conducted (national, regional and local)	120	50	71
4		Number of persons trained in EAFM, MPA and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-27: Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation]	1,800	750	2,464
5		Number of person hours of training on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national, regional and local) [FACTS 4.8.1-29: Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance]	24,000	10,800	41,232
316		Number of policy studies on EAFM, MPA, and CCA (national) [FACTS 4.8.2.28: Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change and/or biodiversity conservation formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance]	8	5	7
7	<b>Result D.</b> Eight public-private partnerships supporting the objectives of the ECOFISH project created and operating	Number of strategic partnerships formally established and operating (cumulative)	8	4	6
8		Number of community partnerships actively engaged and mobilized (cumulative)	100	40	82
9	<b>Result E.</b> One million hectares of municipal marine waters under improved management.	Number of hectares of municipal waters under improved management (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	1,000,000	400,000	478,176
10		Number of hectares of MPAs and network of MPAs established (cumulative) [FACTS 4.8.1-26: Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance]	320	64	180.5
11	<b>Result F.</b> A core of 30 LGUs across the eight MKBAs with improved capacity for implementing	Number of inter-LGU/MKBA fisheries management plans developed	8	2	2
12		Number of LGUs that have achieved EAFM benchmark level 2 or higher (cumulative)	42	10	11

<sup>1</sup> Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (refer to Appendix 1 of the ECOFISH Performance Monitoring Plan for details)

PIRS <sup>1</sup> No.	Key Result Area	Indicator	LOP Target	Year 2 Target	Accom- plished
	ecosystem approaches to fisheries management.				

ECOFISH provided assistance in the preparation of the FishR concept and implementation strategy, as well as technical support in one site to add connectivity using TV White Space. This assistance has been very productive. FishR continues to be a banner program of BFAR. The Adopt-a-MPA Project of the PNP-MG has also been a big success, with PNP-MG linking with LGUs and local stakeholders to increase visibility and enforcement actions in the areas of the MPAs. ECOFISH is working with the PNP-MG to develop a monitoring and reporting system for assessing the effectiveness of the AMPA Project. The Project facilitated the partnership between the PNP-MG and Smart Communications to develop a mobile text-based reporting system for violations of fisheries laws. This platform was first piloted in Tawi-Tawi (Sulu Archipelago MKBA), and will be rolled out nationwide. The PNP-MG issued a Command Memorandum Circular No. 05-2014 (April 2014) to officially adopt and implement 700DALOY.

ECOFISH facilitated the conduct of a series of forums on a proposed seasonal closure for small pelagics in the VIP – this includes a TWG meeting to report the findings of the scientific study made by ECOFISH to narrow down the scope and period for the closed season, individual LGU consultations, and forum formally presenting the proposal to the provincial government.

ECOFISH, through MERF, started conducting review sessions and workshops with partners to draft various sections of the report with the goal of coming up with the first consolidated draft of the SMRR. The team conducted a writeshop with partners from BFAR, and LGUs and agreed on the content and outline of the report. In collaboration with NSAP, the ECOFISH team conducted a training of data analysts of NSAP to revisit and standardize procedures for estimation of fish population parameters and status of fish stocks. These sets of information will also form part of the SMRR and intended to be updated on a regular basis.

The Project successfully conducted the roll-out of the “TV White Space Supported Fisherfolk Registration in the Danajon Reef” in San Jose National High School in Talibon, Bohol. The partners, DOST-ICT Office and Microsoft, together with ECOFISH, turned over to BFAR, the Province of Bohol and respective local government officials the TV White Space connectivity for over 20 public schools in the municipalities of Tubigon, Talibon, Ubay, Bien Unido, Trinidad, and Carlos P. Garcia. These connected public schools will serve as mobile registration hubs under the FishR and, together with the 30 tablets provided, are expected to significantly increase the capacity of the pilot municipalities to facilitate registration of fisherfolk.

The Project officially launched the 700DALOY Partnership between the Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, Smart and USAID. A central Information Management Center (IMC) has since been established in PNP-MG headquarters and over 100 phones have been distributed to pilot users in Tawi-Tawi and other selected offices. Monthly traffic of over 500 text messages has resulted in the successful filing of 2 cases against marine wildlife violators in Tawi-Tawi. Advanced training for the IMC and its enforcement partners are also regularly conducted together with a massive public information and education campaign.

In partnership with the Philippine Association of Crab Processors, Inc. (PACPI) and the National Fisheries Institute (NFI), the ECOFISH team started in Year 2 the implementation of the “Species Specific Assessment and Piloting of Spawning Potential Ratio Method for the Blue Swimming Crab in the Danajon Reef”. Data collection has resulted in 6 months worth of data which have been presented and analyzed with partners for potential interventions. The Project has also accomplished the collection and analysis of data in support of the proposed seasonal closure of small pelagics in Balayan Bay. The data has been used during consultation with stakeholders and evaluation of effective strategy to implement the seasonal closure. ECOFISH, through MERF, has completed the development of the dispersal models for the rest of the other MKBAs, namely, Lingayen Gulf, Verde Island Passage, San Bernardino Strait – Ticao Pass – Lagonoy Gulf, and South Negros. These models will be used to guide the project staff and partners in developing their MKBA-specific MPA network designs.

The prerequisites for the creation of the network of MPAs include the strengthening of previously established MPAs and establishment of new MPAs that will consist the network. ECOFISH provided support to partners in strengthening MPAs that have remained idle for some time and in the selection, assessment, and establishment of new MPAs. By the end of Year 2, ECOFISH has supported the establishment of a total of 180.5 hectares of new MPAs and assisted in the strengthening of about 1,650 hectares of previously established MPAs. An additional total of about 350 hectares of new MPAs are still being proposed by the partners in the across all project sites. They will be assessed and evaluated as to their viability and contributory role to the network of MPAs.

During the feedbacking of baseline assessment results, the ECOFISH team also initiated the inter-LGU EAFM framework planning. With the baseline assessment result as the background, the team facilitated the identification of inter-LGU fisheries management initiatives and individual LGU specific coastal resources management initiatives. These form the backbone of the development of the EAFM framework plan. For Year 2, ECOFISH completed the Integrated Fisheries Resources Management Plans for the LGU alliance of South Negros and the focal area municipalities in Surigao del Norte. For South Negros, the alliances on the Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental sides will oversee the implementation, while in Surigao del Norte the province will take the lead in the integrated implementation of management interventions. The focal area of the project is just a subset of the scope of the province. As envisioned by the Project, the inter-LGU management plans will serve as guide for the implementation and development of future fisheries management interventions as either an inter-LGU initiative or individual LGU activities.

The activities identified in the work plan have been reconfigured in light of the action of BFAR to take the lead in facilitating the registration of fisherfolk, boats and gears and in providing technical assistance and incentives to LGUs. ECOFISH assisted BFAR in developing the concept and implementation mechanisms for the registration of fisherfolk (FishR) in Year 1, and registration of boats and gear (initiated in Year 2, and to be implemented in Year 3). The technical assistance for registration of boats and gears was also delayed because of the lingering issue of jurisdiction for registration of boats less than 3GT between MARINA and the LGUs.

ECOFISH provided support for implementation of FishR in project MKBAs. This included regular monitoring of the progress of partner LGUs in registering fisherfolk in their area; sending feedback to BFAR in case of problems; finding means of improving registration efficiency through the use of modern technology (e.g. TVWS and tablets in Bohol, offline data encoding system for areas without or with poor internet connections. With the success of FishR, ECOFISH is currently working with BFAR to develop a complementary registration system for boats and gears, also known as BoatR. This is expected to be fully rolled-out during Year 3 of ECOFISH Project implementation. In a similar fashion as the fisher registration, the boat and gear registration would mean that there is going to be a need to refine or reconfigure the work plan to be compatible and compliant with the nationwide BoatR process and database system.

Enterprise/livelihoods development started in Year 1 and the activities will continue through subsequent years. In the Calamianes Island Group, several fisherfolk POs were provided with orientation workshops and assistance in proposal writing for rehabilitating their MPA, sea cucumber harvesting, mud crab fattening, and bamboo handicrafts. In South Negros, fisherfolk POs were assisted through orientation workshops and identification of potential projects for GPBP funding. In the Danajon Reef, orientation trainings were conducted for 3 POs in 3 municipalities. Finally, in the Verde Island Passage, 4 municipalities were assisted in project identification and proposal formulation. Business plans for those that are successfully funded will be drafted through the project's assistance under the enterprise development component.

Planning and scoping for social enterprise development was conducted for 5 MKBAs: South Negros, Calamianes Island Group, Verde Island Passage, Danajon Bank and Surigao del Norte. Potential fisherfolk PO beneficiaries have been identified in South Negros, VIP and Surigao del Norte. On the other hand, potential enterprises have been identified in South Negros, CIG, VIP and Surigao del Norte. Partner NGOs that will help implement on the ground activities for social preparation and product development have been identified in South Negros, VIP and Danajon Bank. Coordination with other USAID projects working in similar sites and overlapping with the enterprise development work has been initiated, particularly with COMPETE (for CIG and Danajon Bank) and CDI (for VIP). Finally, the partnership with the Asian Institute for Management (AIM) has been established, wherein their Social Incubation Lab will work hand in hand with the establishment of social enterprises in ECOFISH sites.

Overall, the Project is on track with its Work Plan implementation. Minor delays have been encountered in some site- and national-level activities, but such delays can be addressed in Year 3. There was also a need for the team to modify or reconfigure a number of activities or the approaches in project delivery. Key modifications included:

- ECOFISH reconfigured the fisher registration approach in light of the action of BFAR to take the lead in facilitating the registration of fisherfolk and providing technical assistance and incentives to LGUs.
- ECOFISH is currently working with BFAR to develop a complementary registration system for boats and gears (BoatR). This is expected to likewise modify the approach and activities of the project with regards to municipal fishing vessels registration and licensing of fishing operations at the sites.

- The development of a national EAFM database is also in the process of modification and reconfiguration to be fully compatible with the national database system of BFAR.
- The assistance for QRT capacity-building is still to be finalized pending clear signals from BFAR on what ECOFISH can provide as assistance. At present, the only clear agreement is for the development and implementation of the revised fish examiner's training curriculum.

## 6.1. Unplanned Activities

A number of activities of the project team were not all part of the original Year 2 work plan. Both the thematic leads of the team and the site managers were involved in activities that are primarily related to the deliverables of the project as well as foster good relation with partners. The ECOFISH team participated, co-facilitated, assisted or supported various unplanned activities in response to evident needs, requests from partners and disasters in the project sites. These include, among others, the following:

- After the initial onslaught of the typhoon, efforts were exerted to help the people of the Calamianes Island Group get back on their feet and deal with the loss of homes, farmlands, and fishing paraphernalia on which they depended for their primary source of food and income. During the first half of Year 2, intensive coordination was done with major donors, NGOs and national government agencies that wanted to participate in long-term recovery. As a result of these coordinating activities, the project has partnered with the Philippine Disaster Recovery Foundation for mangrove rehabilitation efforts, with the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) for the provision of fiberglass boats for 300 typhoon victims and boat building training for 15 locals, and with Smart Communications for the donation of water filtration systems to nine barangays whose water supply systems were affected by the typhoon.
- Due to the devastating impacts of Super typhoon Yolanda, a number of private companies, international funding agencies and NGOs planned relief and rehabilitation projects in the affected areas in CIG. Many of these entities requested for coordination with ECOFISH because of the Project's presence on the ground. As a result, some donations were channeled through ECOFISH. Smart Communications and Green Focus donated nine units of Waterboy machines to nine fishing communities that had no access to potable water. Developed by GreenFocus, Inc., Waterboy "harvests" humidity from the air, purifies it through a four-stage process, de-humidifies it, and then dispenses it as pure drinking water. Each machine is capable of producing up to 30 liters of pure water per day. The project facilitated the distribution activities and choice of sites.
- Also in the CIG, United Nations FAO has decided to donate 200 boat engines and 500 fishing gears to affected fisherfolk. Beneficiaries of boat engines were to be selected from the list of fiberglass boat recipients of the WWF-ECOFISH boat building project. The choice of fisherfolk to receive fishing gears has been delegated to ECOFISH. This will be done in line with the planned right-sizing of fishing effort in the MKBA activities in overlapping project sites.



- ECOFISH leveraged private partners' support to training of selected fisherfolk communities in Calamianes affected by Typhoon Yolanda in fiber glass boat building, distribution of fiber glass *bancas* to selected fisherfolk communities in Calamianes, and training on mangrove rehabilitation and reforestation for Calamianes.
- The PPP team of the project conducted targeted organizational diagnosis and organizational development activities in support of the development of social enterprises and conducted negotiations for the subsidized procurement of tablets in support of BFAR's Boat and Gear Registration Program (BoatR).
- The National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the agency leading government efforts in providing long-term livelihood assistance, has also been working closely with the project in setting up alternative livelihood activities for affected fishing families. Finally, the project has been approached by various NGOs planning to conduct similar activities, in order to avoid duplication of efforts on the ground.
- ECOFISH was requested by a broad group of scientists and NGOs to facilitate discussions to develop a coastal greenbelt program, especially a draft bill for the purpose. While coastal greenbelts were not identified as a priority intervention for the Project, we have been frequently drawn into the discussions in the aftermath of Supertyphoon Yolanda, and in the context of coastal ecosystem/ community resilience. ECOFISH facilitated an exchange of ideas among a select group of experts to come up with key points for consideration in a draft law. The Office of Senator Aquino took up the study recommendations and filed a bill, Senate Bill No. 2179, establishing a national coastal greenbelts program.
- ECOFISH provided technical support to NFRDI in developing the training design and training modules for the expanded National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP). The training design and training modules are already being used in training NSAP enumerators in the expanded NSAP sites as well as retooling of enumerators in the old NSAP sites.
- A series of meetings with Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Councils (MDRRMC) in the three municipalities of Calamianes (Coron, Culion and Busuanga) were conducted on December 8-10, 2013. These municipalities were badly hit by Supertyphoon Yolanda in November 2013. The meetings provided updates on damages and needs of affected barangays. One of the identified needs is the provision of boat assistance to the fishers, since FishR has not yet started in the three municipalities because orientation was only completed in September 2013. The LGU wanted to tie this up with boat assistance, wherein registration will be conducted simultaneously with distribution of boats. Initial scoping for enterprise development proposal in Calamianes was also undertaken during these meetings. Potential partners in the implementation of enterprise development were identified.
- Assisted the Regional Director of BFAR 4B when he visited the typhoon-affected fishing communities in Culion in November 2013. ECOFISH was also instrumental in identifying the beneficiaries of AHON project of BFAR in Calamianes Island Group by providing the list of fisherfolk with damaged boats. Also, ECOFISH supported the launching and turn over ceremony of the AHON project.

- Green Focus, a Philippine company that manufactures water production and filtration systems, together with Smart Philippines, donated nine units for Typhoon Yolanda victims in the CIG. ECOFISH was requested to identify the recipients and coordinate the roll-out of the donations. The choice of villages was based on which ones are actively participating in ECOFISH activities, aside from the obvious criteria of being heavily damaged by the typhoon.
- Facilitated the USAID COMPETE and DSWD SLP visit to Busuanga and Coron last 15-16 July 2014 to explore potential partnership on livelihood development particularly on possible tourism destinations and local products enhancement.
- Attended several coordination meetings with FAO to discuss project on post Yolanda assistance which include: refresher course on Fish Visual Census and benthic assessment, provision of buoy markers to 6 MPAs, provision of technical and financial assistance on seaweed farming and donation of boat engines and fishing gears. ECOFISH provided data on MPAs and the list of beneficiaries for boat engines and fishing gears donation.
- In one of the consultations conducted by ECOFISH on Yolanda damage, Culion mentioned that mangrove areas in their 6 barangays were heavily damaged and the LGU has requested support for the rehabilitation of the said areas. In response to their request, ECOFISH facilitated the project proposal writing on mangrove reforestation and rehabilitation and subsequent submission to possible funders. DSWD approved the project proposal through cash for work amounting to PhP1.6 Million. An inception meeting with LGU officials, DSWD Region 4B and ECOFISH was held on 22 August 2014 to discuss about the details of project implementation.
- The Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME) MPA committee meeting was held in Coron, Palawan on 16-18 September 2014. ECOFISH facilitated the learning visit of the delegates to the mangrove forest in Barangay Bintuan and MPA visits in Siete Pecados Marine Park and Kayangan Lake on 17 September 2014. The participants had the opportunity to meet with key leaders managing the MPAs and hold in-depth conversations with them on how they manage the areas and also shared their experiences.
- The Provincial Government of Batangas requested ECOFISH support for the conduct of the 2014 Batangas Environmental Summit (BEST) held on 26-28 March 2014. ECOFISH helped design the summit, including inviting LGU partners from Bohol, Cebu and Negros Occidental to share their experiences with counterparts in Batangas. The result is a regional forum on fisheries management, participated in by the provincial government, all coastal LGUs in the province, Chiefs of Police of every LGU in the province, Batangas Bantay Dagat Network, civil society, private sector and academic institution partners. The BEST regional forum facilitated an exchange of knowledge among practitioners from Bohol, Negros Occidental and Batangas and also led to the public expression of support from all stakeholders for the coordinated implementation of the comprehensive coastal and fisheries development plans of the province, major bays and individual LGUs.
- Facilitated the visit of the USAID Assistant Deputy Administrator for Asia Bureau Greg Beck and USAID-Philippines Mission Director Gloria Steele for the conduct of dialogue with the Municipal Officials and stakeholders on the impacts of the earthquake and typhoon Haiyan on the coastal ecosystem and livelihoods. The output of the meeting

resulted in USAID's affirmation to support the short-term relief and long-term rehabilitation efforts of the Government of the Philippines, particularly in Bohol that was severely affected by the earthquake.

- Facilitated USAID visit to South Negros from 05-07 March 2014 which included courtesy call at the Vice Mayor's Office of Dauin, Negros Oriental. This was followed by a visit to Apo Island Marine Sanctuary and Protected Seascape and a dialogue with the LGU Officials of Dauin and Barangay Council of Apo on the first day. On the next day, the team travelled to Bayawan City for a courtesy visit to the Mayor, quick tour of fisheries support facilities of the city and a dialogue with the Fisheries Section Chief at the same time Chairperson of the Coastal Law Enforcement Cluster (CLEC). This was followed by a brief visit to Silliman University- Institute of Environmental and Marine Sciences (IEMS) and dinner with Dr. Angel Alcala. The 3-day visit was capped with a meeting and interaction with major partners from the BFAR 7 led by the Regional Director, Chief of ENRD Negros Oriental, Program Manager of RARE, Station Chief of 702<sup>nd</sup> Maritime Police Station, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA) and Dumaguete City's Administrator.
- Mr. David Felson, TetraTech ARD Project Manager and Mr. Judah Aliposa, ECOFISH Field Operations Head visited ECOFISH Project Office in Dumaguete City and had a brief meeting with Ms. Florecenia Mepaña, BFAR-Negros Oriental's Provincial Fisheries Officer and PInsp. Arnel C. Anino, 702<sup>nd</sup> Maritime Police Station Chief.
- Together with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Provincial Government of Cebu, Greenpeace Southeast Asia, Save Philippine Seas, Marine Wildlife Watch of the Philippines, ECOFISH Philippines, Manta Trust, Phil. Earth Justice Center Inc., Hotel, Resort, and Restaurant Association of Cebu Inc., and Oceana, co-organized the Shark Summit 2014: A Round Table Discussion and Workshop on the Conservation and Management of Sharks and Rays last 14-15 August 2014 in Cebu City. The first national shark summit aimed to bring key stakeholders working on sustainable shark management and protection and present status, updates, concerns, and projects on shark conservation in the country and ultimately propose policy reforms for conservation and sustainable management of sharks.
- Assisted BFAR and NFRDI in the training of research staff from Regions 5, 6, 7, and 8 and researchers of MV DA-BFAR on the analysis of research data. Trained the research staff on procedures to estimate demersal stock biomass from trawl survey data.
- Assisted the FRMD of BFAR Region 5 in the conduct of the bay-wide fisheries resources management planning for San Miguel Bay. Introduced to the participants the EAFM concept and discussed various fisheries resources management options applicable in the area.
- Assisted the Fisheries Resource Management Division of BFAR in the conduct of the National Conference on Fisheries Resources Management. Discussed the science, tools, actual practice, and governance scale of ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
- Participated in the NSAP Year End Review and Planning in Laoag, Ilocos Norte. The ECOFISH team served as evaluators of NSAP Regional Reports and likewise introduced new fisheries resources assessment and management tools for use by NSAP.

- Assisted the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in the conduct of the Coastal Fisheries Stock Assessment Training for DOST scholars. Discussed fish stock assessment principles, estimation of fish population parameters, and analytical tools.
- Assisted PCAARRD of DOST in the conduct of the National Sardine Research and Development Program Review and Integration. Served as technical evaluators of the various researches conducted on sardine biology, fisheries, and ecology. Also provided the strategy and approach for integrating results of various researches as well as recommended research areas that still need to be conducted for an ecosystem approach to managing sardine fisheries.
- BFAR requested ECOFISH to orient BFAR Regional Directors on the importance of NSAP in fisheries management. After the orientation conducted by ECOFISH and NFRDI, the Regional Directors became even more enthusiastic in supporting NSAP. A series of orientation on the underlying concepts and use of NSAP information in managing fisheries is being planned not only for the technical personnel of the BFAR Regional Offices but also for the entire administrative staff.
- Basic Coastal Law Enforcement Training on 19-21 March 2014 at Mount Bagarabon Beach and Mountain Resort, Barangay Mabua, Surigao City, based on need identified during Coastal Law Enforcement Assessment in the previous quarter. Municipal Fishery Law Enforcement Teams from mainland LGUs and key LGUs in Siargao Island attended the training. Other agencies and partners present included the PAO, PEMO, HIPADA-TAG, DILG, PNP/PNP-MG, PCG, DENR and BFAR.
- Facilitated presentation of the results of the Tourists' willingness-to-pay (WTP) survey to Siargao LGUs on 14 August 2014 at the Bayud Beach Resort, General Luna, Siargao Island. The survey was conducted from September to November 2013 covering General Luna, Dapa and Del Carmen. Around 60 participants from General Luna, Del Carmen, Dapa, Burgos, Socorro, Pilar, and Santa Monica, attended the presentation. Mayor Jaime Rusillon of General Luna and Mayor Alfredo Coro II of Del Carmen were present
- Facilitated community consultations and scoping on 12-13 August 2014 in key LGUs in Siargao Islands, such as Pilar, Santa Monica, Del Carmen, and Dapa. The need to consult the fisherfolk in these LGUs arose from the discussions during the Year 3 Team Planning in July 2014 in Bohol
- Participated in the Artificial Reef Launching held last 02 February 2014 in Brgy. Soloc, Lobo, Batangas.
- Participated to the Educational Outreach of California Academy of Sciences and Pusod, Inc. conducted in Mabini, Batangas.
- Facilitated the Round Table Discussion with U.S. Ambassador Philip Goldberg, it was participated by partner LGUs, NGOs, NGAs and private institutions.
- Provided administrative and technical support to BFAR-Provincial Fisheries Office (PFO) for the conduct of orientation for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC).

## 6.2. Issues and Concerns

The various Year 2 activities provided the ECOFISH project team a good opportunity to work closer with partners on the ground and at the national level. This enabled the team to learn more about the partners and the areas/sites of project implementation (including candid communication of their perceived issues and concerns they hope the project can address). The project team has tried to resolve these issues and concerns as they arose and to the best of the team's ability. Most of these required only quick fix solutions. But a few would require medium- to long-term solutions. These include the following:

- Funding of the enterprise development proposals remains to be a challenge. Initially, the Project thought it could rely on the Phil-Am Fund to complement project interventions on the ground. However, the Fund's cycle is taking longer than expected, potentially affecting the delivery of ECOFISH interventions within the Project's timeframe. The Project is therefore trying to source out other potential partners in funding the social preparation activities to enable the fisherfolk organizations to take off and engage in social enterprises that will help contribute to the Project's objectives.
- The Mayor of Coron has issues with the project due to her perception that: (1) she is already doing many of the project interventions in Coron that ECOFISH is doing; (2) all that the project does is conduct workshops and meetings; and (3) there is no downloading of funds to the Coron LGU. However, these perceptions are not shared by members of the municipal council and the rest of the municipal government. But just the same, implementation of planned activities in the municipality might be affected by these perceptions of the Mayor.
- Fiberglass boat building through the Bancas for the Philippines activity provided an opportunity for ECOFISH CIG team to work closely with the marginalized fishers and LGUs. However, there are issues encountered:
  - a. Four trained boat builders from Culion and two from Coron did not want to continue with their contracts. The slack will be picked up by other builders who have completed their contracts, but this has resulted in delays in the distribution of boats to beneficiaries.
  - b. Beneficiaries could not be consistently counted on to assist in boat building, and builders had to find other volunteers to assist them. For those that had to work on their own, they needed two days to finish one boat. Hence, the original price of PhP 500 per boat was not enough to compensate their work.
  - c. There is no available warehouse that can be used to store the excess boat building kits.
- Difficulty in convening the municipal enforcement teams due to frequent re-assignments of Chiefs of Police.
- The retirement of the Allen, Northern Samar fish examiner has now made Allen the market destination of dynamited fish. BFAR RO 8 has been informed of this development.
- One hundred sixty-four undoubtedly commercial-sized fishing boats based in Bulan are unregistered and unlicensed. The operators expressed willingness to follow existing

regulations but are in a dilemma because there is no commercial fishing ground in San Bernardino Strait and Ticao Pass.

- Intrusion of commercial fishing vessels in municipal waters remains as the main enforcement issue in South Negros MKBA. Strong political support of LCEs and Legislative Bodies complemented with heightened community awareness on coastal conservation, protection and management are imperative. Logistical support thru provision/ leverage funding for coastal law enforcement (CLE) assets in detection, reporting, responding and disposing fishing violations are also needed. Nonetheless, the project is also banking on the support of active NGA partners in the area - Philippine Navy, PNP-MG and Coast Guard.
- Compliance to fisheries regulations and enforcement remain as major challenges for South Negros MKBA despite the fact that we have capacitated the local fishery law enforcement teams with basic training to enhance their fisheries and maritime skills. The local enforcement teams of Siaton, Sta. Catalina and Basay needs to acquire basic enforcement assets to fully equip them in patrolling their municipal waters. Logistical support thru provision or leverage funding for coastal law enforcement (CLE) assets in detection, reporting, responding and disposing fishing violations are imperative.
- The fisheries sector in South Negros MKBA was also affected by the flooding incident brought about by Typhoon Quedan last October 5-6, 2013. In Bayawan City alone, fifteen (15) CFV operators with a total of twenty (20) CFVs (12-totally damaged and 8-partially damaged) and 10 municipal fishing vessels (7- totally damaged, 2- partially damaged and 1-lost engine) were damaged (*from Bayawan City Damage Report, October 15, 2013*). Sources of assistance to respond to these impacts are being explored by ECOFISH.
- LGU Sta. Catalina has proposed for fish aggregating devices/payaos as Bottom up Budgeting (BUB) project in 2013 and has been approved. Likewise, BFAR National Office has delivered 12 units of payaos intended for LGUs in South Negros MKBA on October 29, 2013. These payaos are intended for hook and line municipal fishers from organized Fisherfolk Associations. Since these will be installed within the municipal waters, ECOFISH is quite apprehensive if the LGU and POs are ready to implement such and make sure that only the targeted beneficiaries will benefit from it. In most cases, payaos have greatly benefited commercial fishers which are in fact banned within municipal waters and has significantly increased fishing pressure.
- Social enterprise development and establishment of new MPAs and its network are the major strategies identified to improve employment and income in fisheries and to boost fish biomass in the South Negros MKBA. However, these will be funded through the Special Activities Fund (SAF) where the process of calling for proposals and awarding of contracts have taken a lot of time.
- Commencement/resumption/expansion of mining operations pose potential and grave threat to the municipalities of Placer, Gigaquit and Tagana-an.
- Formation of the provincial fishery law enforcement task force in Surigao del Norte is at a slow pace. After a number of consultations since last year, the provincial government drafted a MOA for all partner agencies last February. Final MOA is currently being passed around for the approval and signature of the respective heads of partner agencies.

- The Participatory Coastal and Resource Assessment (PCRA) have been delayed due to the limited availability of capable service providers for MPA Establishment in Tawi-Tawi. Identified proponent for MPA establishment and strengthening under SAF is currently preparing their proposal.
- Community partnership training on business planning cannot be undertaken due to continuing problem in scoping/identifying of potential PO in Bongao and Panglima Sugala.

### **6.3. Activities Not Accomplished and Why**

A number of activities were not accomplished as planned. The cause for these were usually beyond the Project's control, and will be addressed during Year 3 implementation. Key delays pertain to the following:

- The coastal vulnerability assessment workshop in focal areas was supposedly scheduled last February 2014 but was cancelled by MERF. However, BFAR 7 in partnership with PLGU Negros Oriental thru ENRD has initiated VA orientations for LGU personnel during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of Year 2. For Negros Occidental, a VA facilitators Training is scheduled on 21-22 October 2014. The trained PLGU and LGU personnel will be responsible for facilitating VA assessments in all coastal barangays in their municipalities in Year 3.
- Since the business plans drafted in September 2013 are still for finalization, the PPP impact monitoring in South Negros was not yet implemented. On the other hand, needs assessments and organizational diagnostics were facilitated per PO to determine their readiness in implementing these plans.
- The presentation of MPA network design in South Negros scheduled in January 2014 was not realized since the MERF Team only finished the hydrodynamics survey during the same month. MERF would need more time for analyzing the data collected. The training on MPA networking and the presentation of the MPA network design is moved to 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of Year 3.
- Training on MPA Baseline Assessment and actual assessment for non-priority MPAs was postponed due to difficulty in finding service contractor.
- Two typhoons, "Yolanda" in November 2013 and "Glenda" in July 2014, caused the postponement of a number of activities in the San Bernardino focal area. These activities will be carried over to Year 3.
- The CLE posters were drafted by LGU and BFAR representatives during the Coastal Law Enforcement Assessment Workshop in July 2013 but the ECOFISH Project Graphic Artist is still working on the finalization of said posters.
- Initial activities were already facilitated to discuss gear and species-specific regulations for South Negros, the drafting and enactment of ordinance will be accomplished towards the end of Year 3.



- The Province of Siquijor is one of the expansion sites of South Negros MKBA and an orientation with key partners from the province was scheduled by the thematic leads last July 2014 but was postponed due to unfavorable weather conditions.
- Fish Examiners Training has been postponed indefinitely as the BFAR Head Office is reviewing the content of the module. In some sites, the trainings were spearheaded by the BFAR PFOs in cooperation with the QRT. ECOFISH provided assistance including provision of IEC materials.

## 6.4. Recommended Courses of Action

In addition to the specific response to issues and concerns and accelerating the conduct of activities not accomplished on time detailed above, the Project also will pursue the following recommended actions:

- ECOFISH is closely coordinating with the Mayor of Coron in all the activities conducted by the project and provided continued consultation and dialogues with members of the municipal council and heads of office.
- ECOFISH is coordinating with MERF to speed up MPA network design and Vulnerability Assessment inputs.
- The launch of the AMPA Project has improved the two way communication between law enforcers and partners on the ground. PNP-MG has been very keen in supporting and collaborating with the Project and LGU partners in the implementation of AMPA at the same time addressing IUU fishing issues. The Project will increase the sphere of AMPA implementation to increase the link of PNP-MG with the broader stakeholders in the fisheries sector at the sites.
- ECOFISH will take a more active role in strengthening of Peoples Organizations particularly those intended as beneficiaries of BFAR's *payao* program. The objective is for the POs, consisting mostly of hook and line fishers, to be more organized so as to ensure the appropriate management and their exclusive use of the *payaos*.
- The Project will proceed with the development of training materials (manual, laboratory kits and video) and will make these available for the Fish Examiners Training in the country.

## 6.5. Initial Project Impacts

At this early stage of implementation, the impact of the project could not still be fully realized. However, recent project activities with partners at the national and MKBA levels have already shown some initial impacts:

- ECOFISH has been instrumental in the quick recovery of CIG from the devastating impacts of typhoon Yolanda/ Haiyan. Because of its strong presence on the ground and its close collaboration with the LGUs and MDRRMCs, other NGOs and donor agencies

have been closely coordinating with the Project in planning and implementing their respective recovery and rehabilitation efforts. As such, ECOFISH has been playing a leading role in providing and eventually implementing long-term livelihood strategies, most of which are targeted towards the fisheries sector. The credibility of the Project has been established particularly with the LGUs of Linapacan, Culion and Busuanga, thereby allowing the smooth rollout and implementation of all other Project interventions in these municipalities.

- The Typhoon Yolanda provided new opportunities for partnership in enterprise development and ECOFISH has been recognized by many organizations for potential collaboration in implementing fisheries management and recovery assistance.
- The Adopt-a-MPA Project of the PNP-MG has been a big success, with PNP-MG linking with LGUs and local stakeholders to increase visibility and enforcement actions in the areas of the MPAs. ECOFISH is working with the PNP-MG to develop a monitoring and reporting system for assessing the effectiveness of the AMPA Project.
- The policy assistance to BFAR on FishR has been very productive. FishR continues to be a banner program of BFAR. As of September 2014, FishR recorded almost 1.2 million fisherfolk registrants, or about two-thirds of the estimated number of fisherfolk nationwide.
- With the success of FishR, ECOFISH is now working with BFAR to develop a complementary registration system for boats and gears, also known as BoatR. In anticipation of BoatR, ECOFISH advised partner LGUs in the project sites to refrain from developing their independent system of boat and gear registration.
- ECOFISH was requested to prepare a draft of the National Greenbelt Bill to protect mangroves and promote the establishment of mangrove and beach forest greenbelts around the country. The bill was circulated among experts. After several consultations held by NFR and others, the bill was sponsored by Sen. Bam Aquino and filed in the Senate as Senate Bill 2179.
- ECOFISH provided support for the revision and updating of the National Stock Assessment Program training curriculum. This has been approved and used in the training of new enumerators for the expanded NSAP activities. The ECOFISH's fisheries resource management team served as resource persons in the training of trainers who will in turn train their recently-hired enumerators for the expanded sites of NSAP.
- In the preparation of the State of the Marine Resources Report, an important agreement was forged between ECOFISH and NFRDI. It was agreed that the report should focus on the exploitation ratio values and key population parameters of important fish stocks. These sets of information are regularly collected and annually estimated by BFAR-NFRDI NSAP teams country-wide. These sets of information will be able to show the overall state of exploitation of important fish stocks in the country.
- ECOFISH has completed the collection and analysis of data in support of the proposed seasonal closure of small pelagics in Balayan Bay. ECOFISH, together with the Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office (PGENRO) of Batangas facilitated the conduct of a series of forums on a proposed seasonal closure for small pelagics in the Verde Island Passage – this includes a TWG meeting to report the findings of the scientific study made by ECOFISH to narrow down the scope and period

for the closed season, individual LGU consultations, and a forum formally presenting the proposal to the provincial government

- Overall, ECOFISH implementation of its site- and national-level activities has led to high visibility and credibility of the Project among organizations and stakeholders in the fisheries sector. The Project is often sought by various partners in collaborative activities in fisheries and coastal resources management efforts.